

Portfolio

£22,000 to be won

Today, £22,000 can be won in the Times Portfolio competition, the weekly prize of £20,000, and the daily £2,000. The winner of yesterday's competition was Mr Peter Wall of Huntingdon, who receives £2,000. Portfolio page 20; weekly prizes, information Service, back page.

Runcie hints at stronger leadership

The Archbishop of Canterbury, called on the Church of England to reject destructive conflict and indicated a more positive leadership from the bishops in future.

Page 4
Letter, back page

Coup crushed in Guinea

President Lansana Conté of Guinea, whose troops crushed a coup attempt, opened the summit of the Economic Community of West African States in Lomé, but returned home immediately.

Fan is jailed

A Liverpool football supporter was jailed for one year in Brussels accused of robbery with violence before the ill-fated European Cup Final in May.

Page 3

Bridge result

The British women's team finished runners-up to France in the European bridge championship at Salsomaggiore, Italy. Britain's men were sixth in the open section.

Earlier report, page 5

Schools move

Labour leaders among the local authority employers, with the unions, may try to arrange a meeting of the Burnham Committee in an attempt to solve the teachers' pay dispute.

Press retreat

Last weekend, Beirut was crawling with reporters and television crews covering the TW A hijack. Just a handful are now left. Robert Fisk explains.

Sex Bill through



Ms Janet Fookes (C Plymouth, Drake), whose Sexual Offences Bill to impose fines on lecherous crawlers completed its passage through Parliament yesterday when the Commons agreed to changes made in the House of Lords.

Pound surge

The pound rose 1½ cents to \$1.3282, its highest level for a year. Later in New York it gained further, and was quoted at \$1.3335.

Smugglers jailed

Five smugglers who tried to land cannabis resin valued at more than £10 million at a remote Essex creek were given jail sentences totalling 30 years.

Taxing time

Taxpayers are complaining that inland Revenue inspectors are behaving like the KGB.

Piggott bows out

Lester Piggott confirmed at Sandown Park yesterday that he will retire from riding at the end of the current flat season, in November. He takes up training at Newmarket next year.

Page 29

Leader page 9
Letters: On the Bar, from Mr D. Calcutt, QC, and Mr R. Alexander, QC; hijacking, from Mr L. Wilton.
Leading articles: Brecon by-election; Electronics industry; Wimbledon; Obituary, page 10.
Dr W. A. Vissers 't Hooff, Mr George Oldfield.

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Thatcher faces Tory rebellion after by-election defeat

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The threat of a summer and autumn of renewed internal party discord faced the Prime Minister and her Government yesterday after the Liberal-Social Democrat Alliance narrowly beat the Labour Party to take Brecon and Radnor and inflict on the Conservatives one of their worst by-election defeats since the Second World War.

A contest dominated by the personal unpopularity of Mrs Margaret Thatcher, unemployment and fears of voters about cuts in services resulted in a 559 majority for the Alliance over Labour, with the Conservatives, who had held the seat since 1979, finishing a poor third with their share of the vote almost halved.

The result was a triumph for the Alliance, which for the first time took a seat off the Conservatives in a situation in which the Labour Party also improved its position.

It was, one the Alliance expected, and badly needed, when the campaign began, but one which in the end it was relieved to have achieved after a solid and professional Labour campaign and a succession of hopelessly inaccurate opinion polls forecasting a comfortable Labour victory.

Mr Richard Lacey, aged 30, becomes the eighth Liberal and twenty-fifth Alliance MP in the Commons.

BRECON AND RADNOR

| | |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Lacey, R. A. L. (Lib/All) | 13,753 |
| Wiley, R. (Lab) | 13,184 |
| Buller, C. (C) | 10,531 |
| Davies, Mrs J. (PIC) | 438 |
| Sutch, D. E. (Monist) | 202 |
| Everest, R. (One Nat C) | 154 |
| Genillard, A. (Cure MS) | 43 |
| Majority | 559 |
| Pol | 79.2% |
| Electorate | 48,857 |
| Total votes | 38,412 |

General election, June 1985: Labour 31.1%, Conservative 31.1%, Liberal 17.8%, Alliance 10.0%, Other 9.0%.

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Party leaders unite to berate pollsters

By Anthony Bevin, Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister, Labour and Alliance leaders yesterday turned on the opinion pollsters for their abject failure to get a correct reading of the Brecon and Radnor by-election.

Mr Robert Worcester, head of Market and Opinion Research International (MORI), which produced an 18 per cent vote for Labour in the by-election, said last night: "We got it wrong. I'm eating humble pie. I'm standing up and taking a good-size sample of it."

But a No 10 Downing Street source said that after the disastrous Tory showing that the pollsters were in for.

Dr David Owen, leader of the Social Democratic Party, said: "Up the poll with Labour is a far-left story of Brecon - Mirror, mirror on Labour's wall: MORI most inaccurate of all."

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, had spoken confidently of victory on Thursday night and had even greater grounds for grievance. Labour sources said that the polls may well have made supporters overconfident.

Mr Worcester said: "We probably did Labour a disservice. There was no evidence of a handwagon effect of polls; on the contrary, he said, they sometimes tended to produce a backlash of people voting for the underdog."

Referring to Dr Owen's attack, he said he had done breach of protocol. The Queen would read the document before passing it to the appropriate minister in the Department of Energy, he added.

The document said that the 34 men had been brought before courts for offences of breach of peace and were later dismissed by the coal board.

He said that the men had been subject to a double penalty and unfairly treated because miners in other areas had been reinstated.

Mr Douglas said it was not an attempt to involve the Queen in political controversy. "We are talking not about party politics but about natural justice."

Kinnock hitch, page 2

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Kinnock's plan for coal faces hitch as miners set cash terms

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Editor

Labour leaders who yesterday offered talks with the mining unions on a new plan for coal will be formally pressed to commit themselves to reimbursing the National Union of Mineworkers for money "confiscated" from it during the year-long coal strike because of court proceedings.

The terms of the miners' union resolutions to be put to the Labour Party conference are likely to put fresh strains on the relationship between Mr Neil Kinnock the Labour leader, and Mr Arthur Scargill, the miners' president, at a time when Mr Kinnock wants to draw up a programme for the industry until the end of the century.

The cost of reimbursement would run into millions of pounds, but more problematically the resolution could also be seen as committing the party conference to retrospective indemnification of illegal acts committed by the union or its members.

The demand came to light at the same time as a shadow cabinet offer of talks with the three mining unions on a new plan for the coal industry which would be put into operation by an incoming Labour government, and the National Coal Board immediately after a general election.

The move, welcomed by Mr

Scargill was announced on the last day of the miners conference by Mr Stanley Orme, Labour spokesman on energy, and has the endorsement of Mr Kinnock.

The plan would replace the original one signed between the board, the unions and the Labour government in 1974 and revised in 1977. The plan, much debated during the coal strike, was based on now outdated market forecasts providing for output of between 170 million and 200 million tonnes by the end of the century.

Mr Orme told the miners' conference yesterday that the party was committed to the view that the coal industry will be central to the energy requirements of future generations and have a major share of power creation. And it will need the investment it has been denied.

He added: "If you do not help us to get the Labour government elected there is no chance of these policies being implemented, and you would be facing cuts and another Thatcher-type government irrespective of whether Mrs Thatcher is still prime minister. It would be a disaster for the coal industry."

Mr Orme said that Labour's energy policy would contain

four essential elements: a commitment to public ownership of energy resources and where necessary the extension of it; eradication of "fuel poverty" in the belief that every citizen has a "right to warmth"; a huge energy conservation programme; and a central role for the coal industry in power generation.

Mr Orme welcomed the N.U.M.'s response to his offer and said he was confident the other two mining unions, the British Association of Colliery Management and the National Association of Colliery Overmen, Deputies and Shotfired, would also join the talks.

The N.U.M.'s resolution to the party conference, besides seeking the congratulation of delegates for the struggle of the past year, seeks the "reimbursement" of money belonging to the N.U.M. and other unions "confiscated as a result of fines, sequestration, receivership, legal and other costs."

Mr John Carter, a former miner dismissed during the strike for stealing coal board property, yesterday chained himself to the controls of the winding engine at his old pit in Blackwood, Gwent, to demand his job back. He was persuaded by union officials to end his protest after three hours (Our Cardiff Correspondent writes).

Electronics work switch leads to 700 jobs loss

By Cliff Feltham

More job losses were announced yesterday in the electronics sector.

Plessey, the telecommunications group, is closing its factory at Hutton, Merseyside, which manufactures pay phones for British Telecom, with the loss of about 700 jobs. The work is being transferred to a factory at Chorley, Lancashire.

Plessey says it was forced to rationalize its manufacturing work after the loss of business with British Telecom. Mrs Duran Moore, a shop steward said: "We are all shocked at this closure. We knew there was a chance of job losses but we never expected the place to be closed."

Logica, the British computer software company, is dismissing 100 of the 400 workers em-

ployed at its plant in Swindon because of a drop in orders for word processor and office automation equipment. Losses on the business are likely to wipe out group profits this year.

Perkins, the diesel engine makers, announced last night that it was seeking voluntary redundancies at its factory in Shrewsbury.

After talks with the unions the company said it wanted to trim the workforce of about 1,200 by about 100.

The news comes only a fortnight after the company won a £7million order for engines in a Ministry of Defence contract involving armoured personnel vehicles.

Leading article, page 9

Finance and Industry, page 19

Redundant miners to get extra severance pay

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Up to 30,000 miners due to be made redundant in coming months are to receive more than £10 million in severance pay after a change in the law that would otherwise have deprived them of payments worth up to £104 a week.

The Government has decided to amend the social security Bill now before Parliament so that people made voluntarily redundant will in future receive

unemployment benefit from the date of their redundancy.

Under the existing law, those who volunteered or agreed to be made redundant could not qualify for unemployment benefit for the first six weeks after leaving their job, as they were deemed to have voluntarily given up their job.

The new ruling will not be backdated, but extra-statutory payments are to be made

Tories pick on Scargill as weapon

By Anthony Bevins

Political Correspondent

Lord Whitelaw said yesterday that Mr Neil Kinnock and a Labour government would fail to defend democracy and freedom and would give Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, a "passport to domination."

The Leader of the Lords said in a speech at Selby that it was possible that that would be one of the key themes of the next general election, and there is every indication that ministers plan to press home the attack on an issue which they see as a point of Labour vulnerability.

He said yesterday that the nation's "collective amnesia" about the miners' strike was dangerous; a danger demonstrated by Mr Scargill's "renewed determination to conscript his members into another futile political strike."

That meant power for Mr Scargill as N.U.M. president for life, free of the constraint of ballots, and also power for a Labour government, which would be expected to hand him control of the coal industry "and release from prison those whose callous crimes of violence against their fellow miners so shocked the nation."

Labour, Lord Whitelaw said, would be a pushover because Mr Kinnock's criticisms of Mr Scargill were based on expediency rather than principle.

Sale room

£734,400 paid for two unknown Canalettos

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Two hitherto unknown Venetian views by Canaletto, which had been bought abroad recently, for the equivalent of £22,000, were sold by Christie's yesterday for £388,800 and £345,600. The vendor was not named but his capital gain on the transaction seems to have totalled £660,960.

They are attractive views, but of a fairly standard type of which Canaletto produced a large number. They appear to have belonged to Joseph Smith, the famous English consul and one of Canaletto's keenest patrons. One of them was the original on which an engraving by Visconti was based.

The other outstanding picture in the sale was the half-length portrait of a gentleman by Giovanni Battista Moroni, which sold to Harrari and Johns at £345,600 (estimate £120,000 to £160,000). This painting was known to scholars only from an old photograph, but even so, had been dubbed a masterpiece. It is in almost untouched condition, with the holes still showing where Moroni attached the canvases to the stretchers.

The sale met a selective market but there seemed to be



The Guards Depot team from Pirbright taking part in the World Pacing-Stick Competition at the depot (Photograph: John Manning).

Square-bashing for world champions

By Rodney Cowton

Defence Correspondent

A team from the 1st Battalion, Coldstream Guards, yesterday won the World Pacing-Stick Competition, held at the Guards Depot at Pirbright in Surrey. The prize for the best individual went to Colour Sergeant Malcolm Pearson, of the Grenadier Guards, a member of the All-

Arms Drill Wing team from the Guards depot.

The pacing-stick is a pair of calipers, about the length of a man's leg, which drill instructors in many armies traditionally carry for checking the length of the pace on the parade ground.

A special style of marching has been evolved in which the marcher uses the pacing-stick

to pace himself, and it was the ability to carry out this form of marching that was being tested yesterday.

Ten teams each of four men, and almost all of them qualified drill instructors, took part. Although the Army has awarded the contest the status of a world championship, the fact is that only British Army teams compete, though the Canadian Army and the Metro-

politan Police have also shown interest.

On the vast parade ground at the Guards Depot, capable of accommodating several thousand men, each four-man team took its lonely turn to perform a series of evolutions at the slow march, 65 paces a minute, and the quick march at 116 paces a minute each pace being 30 in long.

Worst Tory defeat since 1962

By George Hill

For the Conservatives, Brecon and Radnor is the worst by-election defeat since Orpington in 1962 and Rochdale in 1958.

In Orpington a still larger Conservative majority of 14,760 was converted to a Liberal majority of 7,855, although the Tories still finished ahead of a badly squeezed Labour candidate.

It is necessary to go back to Rochdale to find another case where the Tories ended up in third place after a by-election in what had been a Tory-held seat.

There, a Conservative majority of 1,590 was turned

into a Labour majority of 4,530 over the Liberals, and the Tories retained little more than one-third of the vote they had had at the 1955 general election.

But there have already been several sharp swings against the present Government in by-elections since the 1983 general election. In July 1983 the Government held Penrith and the Border by only 552 votes, although Lord Whitelaw had a majority of 15,000 before his elevation to the peerage.

In June last year the Alliance gained Portsmouth South from the Tories, whose share of the vote was halved.

Winning style of friendly neighbourhood farmer

In a campaign which all three main candidates constantly treated as a contest as to which of them was the most local man, the man with the most long-standing local claims has won the day.

Mr Richard Lacey was not born in the constituency, but his father came from Brecon and he spent his childhood there. Today he lives and farms in the neighbouring county of Carmarthenshire, and he expressed his eagerness all through the campaign to "come home and live in the constituency."

Perhaps still more to the point, he has all the style and instincts of a mid-Wales farmer for the good reason that that is exactly what he is. This touched a chord in the fifth most intensely agricultural constituency in Britain, though it remains to be seen how effective it will be in the different atmosphere of Westminster.

He is not a man of outward brilliance, and as a public speaker he is flat and a little diffident. But he has a real warmth, especially in face-to-face contacts, and he had the advantage over his main rivals of looking like a man mature and at home in the workaday world, slow-spoken and reassuring, and not like a product

Thatcher faces Tory rebellion

Continued from page 1

elections are so important in enabling it to maintain its momentum, believes that Brecon has given it a springboard from which it can enter the next general election at a much higher level of the percentage national vote than the last.

Mr David Steel said: "We are now in a three-way split. The likelihood of no one political movement having total sway over the House of Commons must now be very, very high and we have to address our minds to what to do in a Parliament where there is no overall majority."

"What we will do whether we are first, second or third is to discuss with other parties a programme for the industrial recovery of this country."

In eight by-elections in this Parliament the Alliance has now scored 116,664 votes, 40,522 for Labour and 109,589 for the Conservatives.

Mr Steel said the result was a body-blow to Labour and to Mr Neil Kinnock's claim to offer the alternative to Thatcherism.

There is no doubt, however, that Labour produced one of its best by-election performances of recent years by increasing its percentage of the vote by almost 10 per cent.

Robot sub close to finding jet black box

By a Staff Reporter

A robot submersible operating at its limits nearly 7,000 feet beneath the Atlantic was last night on the verge of locating the black box flight recorder of the Air-India jumbo jet which crashed 13 days ago with the loss of 329 lives.

Television pictures relayed to the surface from the submersible, Scrab, operated by Cable and Wireless, yesterday identified 10 large sections of the Boeing 747 aircraft, including the cabin and part of the tail.

Bodies and seats were also seen strewn along a four-mile stretch of the ocean floor 110 miles off the Irish coast.

A multi-million pound salvage operation is likely to be mounted to recover the wreckage. It would be the greatest depth at which such an attempt has been made.

The only positive evidence so far of what happened to the Delhi-bound flight from Canada shortly before a refuelling stop at Heathrow Airport is that it suffered a total electrical failure followed by massive decompression, breaking up before it hit the sea.

The sudden loss of power would have halted the taping of the twin flight recorders leaving examination of the wreckage as possibly the only way of identifying the precise cause of the crash, which is believed by many to have been the result of a terrorist bomb.

More public access soon to council information

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

A Bill which will greatly increase the public's right of access to local government information and meetings is on its way towards Royal Assent, although there is said to have been opposition from some key figures in the Government.

It was sponsored by Mr Robin Squire, Conservative MP for Hornchurch, backed by the Community Rights Project and the Campaign for Freedom of Information.

The Local Government Access to Information Bill imposes on councils a requirement to publish a summary of the rights of individuals under the legislation. It allows a member of the

public to attend any sub-committee, committee or council meetings to inspect before and at the meeting the agenda and reports of the sub-committee, committee or council meeting to inspect all their minutes; and to inspect all background papers relating to agenda items, subject to some safeguards.

The Bill also gives councillors greater access to council information and requires a list to be published of councillors' names and the public's general rights to information.

Mr Squire said "the Bill would affect every local authority in England, Wales and Scotland."

Tory MPs call for sulphur pollution pledge

Conservative MPs have signed an Early Day Motion calling on the Government to pledge a 30 per cent cut in sulphur dioxide emissions by 1993. Friends of the Earth said yesterday:

"The issue is likely to become an embarrassment to the Government, which, in a Parliamentary reply on Thursday, announced that it would sign no such agreement."

That decision, and the timing of the announcement, is certain to infuriate many delegates to the third meeting of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe's Convention on Long Range Transboundary Air Pollution, beginning in Helsinki on Monday.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, in a speech at Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, said yesterday:

"The fact of the matter is Britain has already reduced its sulphur emissions more than most by the time other countries got around even to looking at the problem."

Mr Richard Ottaway, Conservative MP for Nottingham North, put down the Early Day Motion on June 27.

Police wounded in 15-hour house siege

A man was being questioned by police in Birmingham last night about the wounding of a woman police constable and a detective superintendent, who were hit in the legs by shotgun pellets.

The man gave himself up after a 15-hour siege at a house in the King's Heath area of the city.

Woman Police Constable Caroline Cernin, aged 24, had three shotgun pellets removed from her thigh and Detective Superintendent Michael Foster, aged 38, had a single pellet removed from a leg.

Car sales dip

Car sales in the United Kingdom during the first six months of the year totalled 943,636, marginally below the figure for the corresponding period in 1984, and importers increased their share by nearly 3 per cent to 58.72 per cent.

The Times overseas selling prices: Australia \$24.50, Belgium £1.75, Canada \$24.50, Denmark \$24.50, France \$24.50, Germany \$24.50, Greece \$24.50, Hong Kong \$24.50, India \$24.50, Italy \$24.50, Japan \$24.50, Korea \$24.50, Malaysia \$24.50, Mexico \$24.50, New Zealand \$24.50, Norway \$24.50, Singapore \$24.50, Spain \$24.50, Sweden \$24.50, Switzerland \$24.50, Taiwan \$24.50, Thailand \$24.50, USA \$24.50, Yugoslavia \$24.50.

Law Commission report

Abolition of blasphemy offences is recommended

By Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

In spite of overwhelming objection to a proposal to abolish the offence of blasphemy, the Law Commission is recommending that it should be done.

"This conclusion accords with the requirements for codifying the law which, as we have pointed out, entails the abolition of all common law offences and their replacement, so far as may be necessary, by new statutory offences," the commission says. It recommends that blasphemy and blasphemous libel should not be replaced as crimes.

In a report, it says that of the 1,800 contributions about the proposal to abolish blasphemy, more than 1,700 expressed the view that an offence of that kind should be retained. In addition, the commission received more than 175 petitions, bearing a total of 11,770 signatures, all of them of the same view.

Opinion within the churches was generally against abolition, while the opinion of lawyers, professional groups and academic commentators was for the greater part in favour of the proposal. The list of those in

favour of retaining the law of blasphemy includes the Home Office.

Many quoted Lord Scarman's view: "I do not subscribe to the view that the common law offence of blasphemous libel serves no useful purpose in the modern law. On the contrary, I think that there is a case for legislation extending it to protect the religious beliefs and feelings of non-Christians."

"The offence belongs to a group of criminal offences designed to safeguard the internal tranquility of the kingdom. In an increasingly plural society, such as that of modern Britain, it is necessary not only to respect the differing religious beliefs, feelings and practices of all, but also to protect them from scurrility, vilification, ridicule and contempt," Lord Scarman said.

The argument put forward by the commission goes to the heart of controversy about codification of the law. It is necessary not only to respect the differing religious beliefs, feelings and practices of all, but also to protect them from scurrility, vilification, ridicule and contempt," Lord Scarman said.

Published in hardback last October, the novel by Miss Michele Roberts has achieved sales of 10,000 since the paperback version appeared on May 9.

The last blasphemy case was in 1977, initiated by Mrs Mary

lor, said earlier this week, in a speech to the Common Law Bar Association. "The heart of the English Bar remains the general practice of the common law."

He gave a warning about the position in other countries outside the common law tradition, where the judiciary is a separate profession. Though granted independence by written constitutions, in countries based on the Code Napoleon, the judiciary was part of the civil service.

By contrast, in the common law tradition, the professional judiciary was recruited from successful members of the

practising profession, usually at the age of 45 to 55.

The highest appointments, Lords of Appeal in Ordinary, Lords Justices and Heads of Division are made on the recommendation of the Prime Minister. However, the Lord Chancellor is always consulted.

His responsibility for judicial appointments extends, also to High Court and circuit judges, to masters and registrars, stipendiary magistrates, social security commissioners, tribunal chairmen, chairmen of industrial tribunals, and social security appeal tribunals. He is also responsible for judicial

appointments in Northern Ireland.

The Law Commission, describing how the law courts have shaped the law, says: "There is, as we indicated at the outset of this report, no one agreed definition of blasphemy and blasphemous libel. Being offences at common law, their constituent elements have been subject to change over the three centuries of their history, through the decision of the courts."

"In terms of legislation, therefore, it would scarcely be practicable, even if it were thought desirable, to amend the common law definition by statute."

"Consequently, the very acceptance of the need for radical change to the common law inevitably entails the abolition of the offences in their present form," it says.

The press notice says the commission also believes that further consideration should be given to the creation of new crimes to penalize offensive behaviour in places of religious worship wherever held.

Offences against Religion and Public Worship (1985) (Law Commission No 145 (Hoc 442), Stationery Office, £4.90).

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Mystery of missing kidnap photographer

Press exodus as kidnap fears return to haunt Westerners in Beirut

Alfred Yaghoubzadeh went missing somewhere between the Mayflower Hotel and the Associated Press office in west Beirut.

He is one of the finest photographers to have worked in Lebanon over the past two years, staying on to film the battle of the Palestinian camps even after he had been wounded by shrapnel in the leg and was hobbling on crutches. But 10 days ago, leaving his cameras in a taxi, someone unknown simply spirited him away.

Daughter to plead for seized journalist

By Henry Stanhope

The daughter of Mr Alec Collett, the British journalist who is among those still missing in Lebanon, is flying to Beirut tomorrow to make a personal appeal to his captors for his safe release.

Miss Susie Grant, a reporter with Capital Radio, is being taken there by a TV-camera crew who have already arranged a number of interviews with prominent Lebanese, including the Shia leader Mr Nabih Berri, Mr Derek Maitland, the producer, said last night he

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

Perhaps because he is an Iranian, perhaps because the attention of the press corps in Beirut was focused on the drama of the American hostages, his disappearance went almost unnoticed. Yaghoubzadeh has not been heard of since. There has been no demand from his kidnappers.

Yesterday a group of foreign and Lebanese correspondents in Beirut published an appeal for his release - without even knowing to whom it should be addressed. The number of

journalists here is anyway dwindling again, the fear of kidnap has returned to haunt all Westerners in Lebanon.

Until five days ago, there were hundreds of reporters and television crewmen in Beirut, all having returned briefly to cover the hijacking of the TWA jet.

But in the past 48 hours most have been ordered out again by their head offices in New York. They include American employees of the three big American television networks, and the correspondents of *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post*.

The BBC has again withdrawn its staff in the city. Numbers of British correspondents who came to Beirut two weeks ago - including one from *The Daily Telegraph* - have also left.

Just a handful of Western news organizations, which include *The Times*, now remain in the country. Cable News Network, the American all-news channel, still has a US crew in west Beirut, but they are expected to leave today.

According to some US television networks, who are keeping Lebanese staff in Beirut, the State Department specifically advised them to remove American employees.

When the American Embassy in east Beirut heard yesterday that several US journalists had still not left the Muslim western sector of the city, the reporters received calls from a US diplomat - who does not travel to the western half - expressing concern at their continued presence.

"I'm mortified to hear you're still here," one American Embassy man told a US correspondent yesterday, in a half-joking - but half-serious - manner.

It is now almost four months since Terry Anderson, the Associated Press bureau chief in Beirut, was kidnapped in the city. His abduction was claimed by the Islamic Jihad organisation, which is demanding the release of Shia Muslims jailed in Kuwait for bombing the US and French embassies there.

Alec Collett, a British freelance writer working with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (Unrwa), was abducted just south of Beirut in March.

Eleven other foreigners, including Yaghoubzadeh, are still missing in Lebanon. All but one are in the hands of Islamic Jihad.



Faroud Wardak, centre, and Gulam Wardak, Afghan guerrillas, examining Eastern bloc weapons at a US Special Forces Association display in New Orleans as US Army Sergeant John Selt explains their use in training. The Afghans will take part in ceremonies honouring fighters trained by the Green Berets.

Democrat governors in cash scandals

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Two state governors at opposite ends of the country are in serious political trouble over accusations of influence-peddling and financial irregularities. The state Senate in Alaska is to begin impeachment proceedings on July 15 against Governor William Sheffield, and Governor Edwin Edwards of Louisiana is to be sent for trial on September 17. Neither has resigned.

At issue in Alaska is the allegation that in February Mr Sheffield, a millionaire hotelier who had never held office before being elected Democratic governor, secured a \$9.1 million (£7 million) state office lease to a political supporter without competitive bidding.

A lengthy report accused him of manipulating the specifications for the lease of office space in Fairbanks to a firm partly owned by a friend and fund-raiser.

After an investigation by a grand jury the state attorney general said the lease was "tainted with favouritism". Governor Sheffield's

chief of staff admitted destroying public documents relating to the lease and lying to the grand jury before being granted immunity to compel his testimony.

The grand jury recommended impeachment, the removal from office by the state legislature.

In Louisiana the charge appears more serious. Governor Edwards, also a Democrat, and seven others have been indicted in what the Government said was a \$10 million scheme to obtain state certificates authorizing the construction of hospitals and nursing homes. The certificates were then sold to big hospital corporations, which would be able to recoup almost all their expenditure through government programmes.

Governor Edwards was indicted on February 28. He told a US attorney he would resign if the indictment was blocked, but his request was refused. He is said to have made between \$3 million and \$4 million from the alleged fraud.

Turkey says No to UN Cyprus deal

From Edward Mortimer

Ankara Turkey has given the thumbs-down to the United Nations' latest draft agreement on Cyprus in a statement made here by the Foreign Minister, Mr Vahit Halefoglu.

Speaking to a group of visiting British journalists, Mr Halefoglu said: "The new text falls far behind the concepts put forward by the Secretary-General and accepted (last January) by the Turkish Cypriot side in the New York summit".

He declined to go into details, but outspoke that there were "substantial differences" between the two texts, pointing out that the Greek Cypriots, who rejected the January text but had accepted the new one, also admitted this.

Mr Richard Haas, President Reagan's special co-ordinator for Cyprus policy, who saw the Greek Cypriot president in Nicosia and the Greek Prime Minister in Athens earlier this week, was in Ankara yesterday for further discussions on the Cyprus issue.

Gorbachev gives nod to black economy

From Richard Owen

Moscow Any Russian who wants his hard-won Zhiguli or Moskvich car serviced knows where to take it for overhaul: no to the state service station, where there is a long waiting list, there are no spare parts and the mechanics are probably either dishonest or incompetent, but to a little lock-up garage up a certain dirt road off one of Moscow's main highways.

The mechanic working "on the left", as the Russians say, is fulfilling a need the state system cannot supply.

Similarly, if you want shelves put up or tap repaired you can usually find a handyman "on the left". Moscow is full of little workshops tucked away up side streets.

For that matter, many Russians use "private" dentists and doctors rather than go through the purgatory of using the state health system.

The Kremlin alternates between suppressing this "black economy" and trying to harness it, and under Mr Mikhail Gorbachev the barometer is swinging to the liberal solution: legalize private enterprise and, above all, tax it.

Mr Gorbachev's official remedies for Russia's economic ills have been relatively orthodox: continuation of the Andropov industrial experiments, the linking of wages to productivity, an overhaul of industry, and technological innovation.

But a Soviet scholar has suggested in the press that private initiative has a role to play, writing in *Komsomolskaya Pravda*, Dr Vladimir Rogovin noted that private enterprise was permitted under the constitution in the sphere of "arts and crafts, agriculture, and consumer services," provided only the individual craftsman and his immediate family were involved - in other words, no capitalist-style hiring of employees.

"I see nothing wrong in the existence of private workshops," Dr Rogovin wrote. "At least, it is preferable to people working on the side, during working time, sometimes with stolen spare parts."

Why wait until a man with an unearned income is caught red-handed, asked Dr Rogovin, who began to take an interest in the black economy when he came across a man who had become so frustrated with factory work that he worked full time in the "black economy" making doors.

"Does society not offer another way?" Dr Rogovin wondered, noting that the taxes on the doorman's income of £1,000 a month - five times the national wage - would be considerable.

The article appears to be part of a public debate and does not necessarily foreshadow government policy. As Dr Rogovin himself noted, legalizing private enterprise could lead to the accumulation of property and cash beyond the limits tolerable in a socialist society.

He suggested that a "socially permissible limit" could be declared by the Kremlin, and that to avoid speculation the interest rate at Soviet savings banks should be reduced.

"At present", he noted disapprovingly, a citizen who places 10,000 roubles (nearly £10,000) in the bank will receive 3,000 roubles interest per annum, a remark which caused astonishment among readers hitherto unaware that there might be Soviet citizens with as much as 10,000 roubles to invest in the first place.

Britain files claim for Korea jet victims

Britain has filed a £2 million compensation claim with the Soviet Union over the 14 Hong Kong citizens who died in the South Korean airliner shot down by the Russians nearly two years ago (Henry Stanhope writes).

The claim was submitted to the charge d'affaires at the Soviet Embassy in London two days ago. It has taken until now for Whitehall officials to decide on the appropriate sum, according to sources.

Although the Russians have accepted the claim, they have never admitted liability for the incident and a settlement of it by Moscow looks at best a distant prospect.

Prague bars churchmen

Vienna (Reuters) - Czechoslovakia has barred foreign churchmen, including the Roman Catholic Primate of Austria and the Archbishop of Paris, from attending a religious celebration on Sunday.

Church sources said Cardinal Basil Hume from Britain and Catholic dignitaries from other European states were among those not given a visa.

Police arrest 4,000 in Lima

Lima (Reuters) - Peruvian police arrested 4,000 people in a drive to stop guerrillas stealing vehicles to use as car bombs.

A spokesman said the biggest swoop in the capital this year was part of stepped-up security for the inauguration on July 28 of the President-elect, Señor Alan Garcia.

Palau elections

Koror, Palau, (AFP) - Elections will be held in Palau in 60 days following the assassination of President Remelick of the Pacific island Archipelago.

Shultz tour

Washington - Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, left Washington on a two-week tour of Asia during which he will hold talks with foreign ministers of the Association of South East Asian Nations in Kuala Lumpur.

Power contract

Ankara (AFP) - A Canadian-led consortium, including the British firm Parsons and a Turkish firm, has won a contract to build the Akkuyu-1 nuclear power station in southern Turkey.

Czech gold

Prague (AP) - Exploratory probes have confirmed the existence of large gold deposits near Prague with an estimated value of \$1 billion, a state geologist said.

Melon scare

Los Angeles (AP) - California state officials have ordered all watermelons off store shelves after at least 36 people fell ill in California, Oregon and Washington states, and traces of a pesticide were found in some melons.

Nautilus home

Groton, Connecticut (AP) - The submarine Nautilus, the world's first atomic-powered vessel, ends its final 6,000-mile ocean voyage today at the harbour where it was launched 31 years ago.

Okay to wiggle

Peking (AFP) - Wiggling one's backside while disc dancing is not "unhealthy" and does not threaten Socialist morality, according to the latest edition of Shanghai's *Liberal Daily*. "Swinging one's buttocks" is a feature of ancient Chinese dances, it added.

CORRECTION

European Economic Community officials' salaries are not tax-free, as suggested in an article on June 3.

11 desert in 'staged' Shia raid

From David Bernstein Jerusalem

A position belonging to the "South Lebanese Army" (SLA), the Israeli-backed militia, was overrun by forces of the Lebanese Shia Amal militia early yesterday morning in what reliable sources in the area claimed was a staged attack designed to facilitate the desertion of the 11 Shia militiamen manning the position.

According to these sources, the attacking force was commanded by the leader of the group of SLA Shias who deserted to Amal last month, under cover of a similar "attack" staged by Finnish soldiers belonging to the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (Unifil).

The sources said that three or four of the SLA Shias manning the position yesterday morning had apparently not been party to the ploy and resisted.

The Unifil spokesman, Mr Timor Goksel, confirmed yesterday that a shooting incident had taken place at Kantara in south Lebanon, and that a joint Israeli-SLA force had been observed advancing towards the position. He also said two people had been injured.

Former Premier in hiding

Troops put down Guinea coup

Conakry (Reuters) - Guinean troops have foiled an ill-organized coup by Colonel Diarra Traore, the former Prime Minister, who is now in hiding, official sources said yesterday.

Eye-witnesses said several people were wounded, some seriously, when troops flushed Colonel Traore's rebels out of Conakry radio station late on Thursday night.

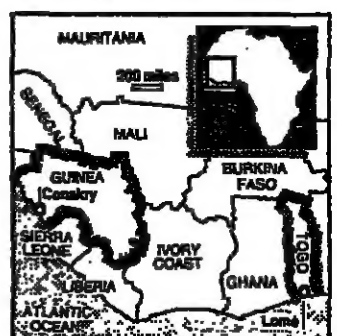
The rebels, who announced the overthrow of President Lansana Conte, held the station for several hours but failed to take control of other key buildings.

Colonel Traore said on the radio that he headed a "Supreme State Council" which would end "nepotism and economic sabotage".

The official sources said the armed forces remained loyal to President Conte, who was in Togo for a meeting of West African leaders.

They said Colonel Traore, aged 50, whose job as Prime Minister was scrapped in a government reshuffle last December, was supported by police units and some unidentified members of the ruling Military Committee of National Recovery.

Guinea's land, sea and air



Col. Traore: Job scrapped

borders were sealed while the hunt for the rebel ringleaders continued. Checkpoints were set up on all roads out of the capital, and a statement on

Conakry radio urged Guineans to denounce "enemies of the country".

The Planning Minister, Mr Jean Traore, told French radio that the Army was conducting a house-to-house search in Conakry "to try to lay its hands on Diarra Traore". He said some rebels were barricaded in the radio basement; the Army was using teargas to flush them out.

Witnesses said some shops owned by Malinkes, Colonel Traore's tribal group, were burned and looted, but the Army swiftly cracked down on the looters.

Resistance to the coup was organized by four ministers, all members of the military, the sources said. They included Mr Mamadou Baldé, Minister of State for the Civil Service, and Mr Jean Traore, a close aide of President Conte.

The President left for home yesterday from Lomé, where he was chairing a two-day meeting of the Economic Community of West African States.

President Conte and Colonel Traore had ruled in an uneasy alliance since last year's Army takeover shortly after the death of Sekou Touré, who had ruled the country with an iron fist for 26 years.

Directors indicted for cement exports fraud

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Twelve former directors of the Hercules General Cement Company, which was taken over by the state two years ago, were indicted last night for criminal fraud against the state, a charge that under certain conditions is punishable by death.

Lawyers for the Tsatsos family, which managed this successful company for three generations before the takeover, said they were not prepared to comment since they had no access to the indictment.

According to this announcement the management of the company was accused of underpricing invoices for cement exports and overpricing im-

ported raw materials. Charges of breach of trust and illegal transfers of foreign exchange were dropped. The council of misdeemeanors which issued the indictment brushed aside the prosecution's recommendation for a total acquittal.

It set bail of £170,000 for each of the four members of the Tsatsos family serving on the board, including Mr George Tsatsos, aged 45, the former managing director who was planning to finance the launching of an English-language daily newspaper in Athens next week, his father Alexander, aged 80, and his mother. The other defendants were allowed bail of £38,000.

Caribbean leaders seek trade revival

Bridgeport (Reuters) - Caribbean Community (Caricom) heads of government have reaffirmed their commitment to reviving regional trade but only partly resolved the issue of trade debts between members.

"Although there was not as much progress as we would have liked, there were some positive decisions on air transport, trade credit and agricultural products", the Prime

Minister of Barbados, Mr Bernard St John, said.

With intra-regional trade having declined 25 per cent between 1981-1984, this issue dominated the sixth Caricom summit. He said it was disappointing that the agreement reached at last year's Nassau summit, covering a common external tariff against imports from third countries and free trade within the region, had yet to be implemented.

Caricom is now dependent on two countries which have been least affected by recession - Barbados and Trinidad - and must marshal international assistance for debt-ridden Jamaica and Guyana.

Agreement was reached on a joint position for international financial institutions, notably on getting the World Bank to provide loans for low to middle income countries unable to raise private bank loans.

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You'll take to its wide open spaces.

The new Prairie is all about space, and luxury. That's why the roof-line is 8" higher than an ordinary car and the load platform is only 17" from the ground, lower than even the smallest estate car.

It is the reason why there are no central door pillars and the rear doors slide back to leave a clear open space. Even the seat belts are built-in to the front doors to create more space. The interior is not only spacious, it is infinitely flexible. The rear seats recline, just like the front ones, or fold forward to give a cavernous storage space 4 feet high and 5 feet long. Or you can fold all the seats flat into a double bed for overnight camping. The Prairie offers all this space in a car that is not only beautifully equipped and very comfortable, but drives like a small saloon - with the great advantage that visibility over hedges and other traffic is superb.

The Prairie has a highly efficient lightweight

OHC engine, with either 1.5 litres or 1.8 litres depending on the level of performance you want. Both engines are fitted transversely to give even more space and drive the front wheels through a 5-speed overdrive gearbox for outstanding economy and safe, sure handling.

The Prairie's high levels of equipment reflect Nissan's belief in giving exceptional value for money. Push-button radio, heat-reflecting glass, quartz clock, remote controls for door mirrors and tailgate and petrol flaps, all come as standard. There is even a new Anniversary II model, with extra luxury items such as electric windows, electric sunroof and power steering.

And the Prairie, like every Nissan car, has a free 100,000 mile/3 year warranty and a free 6-year body warranty.

You will come across the Prairie at your Nissan dealer. It is everything the perfect family car should be. Spacious, luxurious and very economical to run.

Nissan is Better.

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THE ARTS

Britain files
claim for
Korea jet
victims

Britain has filed a £2 million compensation claim with the South Korean government over the deaths of two British citizens who died in a crash of a Korean jetliner in 1981. The claim was filed by the Foreign Office in Seoul.

The claim was submitted to the South Korean government in London. It has taken until now for the appropriate officials to decide on the claim.

Prague bars
churchmen

Vienna (Reuters) - Czechoslovakia has barred foreign churchmen, including the Pope's representative, from attending a religious ceremony in Prague.

Church sources said Cardinal Basil Hume from Britain and other European states were not given a visa.

Police arrest
4,000 in Lima

Lima (Reuters) - Peruvian police arrested 4,000 people in a drive to stop guerrilla activities. A spokesman said the sweep was part of stepped-up operations for the inauguration of President Alan Garcia.

Palau elections

Koror, Palau, AFP - Elections will be held in Palau following the resignation of President Remengesau.

Shultz tour

Washington - Mr. George Shultz, the Secretary of State, will visit Washington in a tour of Asia during which he will hold talks with the leaders of the South East Asian nations.

Power contract

Ankara (AFP) - Turkey has signed a power contract with Iran for the purchase of electricity.

Czech gold

Prague (AP) - Czechoslovakia has agreed to sell gold to the West. The sale is part of a plan to raise funds for the country's economy.

Melon scare

Los Angeles (AP) - California state officials warn of a melon shortage after a pestilence was found in the state's melon fields.

Nautilus homi

Greston (AP) - The submarine Nautilus, which was used in the film 'The Hunt for Red October', is being sold to a private collector.

Okay to wig

Peking (AP) - Chinese officials have agreed to allow the use of wigs in the country.

CORRECTION

European Commission suggests a new system for the Common Market.

AIR

spaces.

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Radio
Chatter, but no matter

Beginning, as it does, at the thoroughly civilized hour of 11.15, Radio 4's Sunday morning programme Colour Supplement is excellently placed for making tolerable that no man's land between the Sunday papers and Sunday lunch. The first programme of the new series, however, proved to be a dull, one and three-quarter hour-long, rag-bag of tired wit and vacuous banter that was about as colourful as a wet Sunday morning in Wapping, and which made the *Radio Times*'s description of the programme as "glossy" (to wit "bright or lustrous") appear little short of mendacious.

The programme's new presenter, Margo MacDonald, has declared her intention of adopting a somewhat harder approach than her predecessor, Sarah Kennedy, but all she managed to do last Sunday was sound mildly argumentative about subjects which were either impossible to discuss sensibly in a few minutes or really were not worth discussing in the first place.

The problem is that, while Miss MacDonald may well wish to give the programme a slightly tougher image, it continues to have a consistency which is about as tough as a marshmallow. On Sunday, we had the ubiquitous Derek Jameson telling us, yet again, that he does not know about Fleet Street is not worth knowing; Nick Farrell giving a tediously unfunny account of the Saturday-night/Sunday-morning high jinks of a bunch of odious Hooray-Henry types at a hunt hall; and Susan Marling dropping in on the cartoonist Bill Tidy and family while lunch was being prepared and where one topic of conversation, if not an item on the menu, was ripe.

Unfortunately, this was not the only type on *Colour Supplement*, and a lump of soft-boiled satire from Laurie Taylor and Vic Lewis-Smith (on the subject of Sunday pottering) seemed to leave even the programme's presenter bereft of any intelligent comment. Thank heavens for those few moments of pure delight in the company of Ray Gosling, revisiting the Wellingborough signal-box where, 30 years ago, he had worked as a signaller's boy.

Another series which made its return this week was *When Houseships* had the Choice (Tuesday, Radio 2, produced by Jonathan James Moore), in which Russell Davies and Maureen Lipman co-present a

stylish scrapbook of memories from those years - this week it was 1950 - when *Houseships* 'home' was one of the most popular programmes on radio.

The frantic to-and-fro word play between the presenters is somewhat tiring, and there are the usual non-sequiturs so beloved by broadcasters in search of a link (*"Listen With Mother* mattered a lot more to us at the time than did the death of George Orwell, which occurred on January 21st, but the irreverent mix of useless facts about stick-on bras and soapless soap, with music which ranged from Bing Crosby baking a sunshine cake to the Luton Girls' Choir counting their blessings, was an entertaining reminder of the way we were - some of the time, at least - in the year when Jean Hardy, a 28-year-old domestic servant, lobbed a brick through a window at Broadcasting House because she thought the BBC wanted "livening up a bit".

Livening up this week's radio was *The Drum* (Wednesday, Radio 4, produced by Desmond Briscoe), which examined the symbolic and metaphorical power of an instrument almost as old as the human voice. Michael Smee, whose measured narration was set against a constantly changing counterpoint of drum-beats, drum-rolls, and rava-tat-tatting rattles, called the programme "an exploration". Certainly we were transported back and forth in time and space (now in Ancient Greece, now in Papua New Guinea by way of Hong Kong), but with a randomness of purpose and material that seemed oddly contrary to the disciplined rhythm of the drum itself.

Evocatively orchestrated, *The Drum* used music, poetry, drama, and archaic recording interviews and actors desperately trying to read documentary material as if they were speaking extempore (a device which never works well, and which utterly fails when set alongside the real thing). One minute we were listening to a score from *Mother Courage*. The next thing to Jack Parnell explaining the complexities of flares, drags, partridges and daddy-mammies.

Nevertheless, *The Drum* was a deviously diverting improvisation which excited and disturbed by the relentless insistence with which it spoke to the drum which beats within each one of us.

Brian Sibley

Opera

Ariadne auf Naxos
Royal Opera House

Even the "richest man in Vienna" cannot engage Jesse Norman as his Ariadne for a whole run of performances. The castaway for two nights has been Rosalind Plowright, who rose to Strauss's challenges magnificently. She gained in presence throughout the opera proper, after a spirited if as yet tentative caricature of the Prologue's prima donna.

Her lament "We war ich! Tot!" was particularly intelligently shaped, with an arresting *scena* just before her first great explosion above the stage. If there was a momentary loss of intonation in the phrasing of "Es gibt ein Reich" it was possibly because she was required to wrap a black cape round her head. By the final duet her vibrant timbre was again being projected with compelling intensity.

The pity is that neither she nor Miss Norman have been matched with a Bacchus of comparable lustre. James King, having been declared ill, the Finn, Peter Lindroos, filled the role gamely, but produced neither power nor tone appropriate for a young god (or, indeed, a tenor wearing a Superman costume). That, and the producer Jean-Louis Martiniot's mysterious handling of the final duet (with the "stage audience" and even the Composer slipping out), did not make a notoriously tricky ending any more persuasive.

Two American newcomers offered greater pleasure. Celina Lindsey brought us right back to the shallow, coquettish view of Zerbinetta, with a dazzling barrage of Marie-Lloyd-style movements (cane-twirling and cartwheels included) compensating for a rather unvaried tone.

At times this staging is too busy inventing its own theatrical in-jokes (the prologue, for instance, begins as all forces seem to, with a telephone conversation). Instead of elucidating Hofmannsthal's elegant but precarious dramatic structure. Some innovations just seem illogical. Why do the singers present their entertainment with their backs turned to the man who paid for it? In the pit, though, Jeffrey Tate does the composer's "heilige Kunst" full justice.

Richard Morrison



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The Duchess of
Malfi
Lyttelton

The choice of this play to launch Ian McKellen and Edward Petherbridge's new National Theatre Group is both a safe option, in that so famous a work with such celebrated leading actors might be expected to be incapable of commercial failure, and also a bold move, in that their artistic achievement will be subject to the closest scrutiny.

Whether or not you believe that what they have created justifies their choice (and, with reservations, I do) you can hardly accuse them of not running up their colours.

Webster's play is a horror story with no consistent moral core, and therein lies a wealth of attraction for a modern audience in an insanely violent world. But the full text does at least introduce the action with Antonio's politically significant comparison between the courts of France and Italy. Here, we are thrust directly into Bosola's first confrontation with the Cardinal, whom he importunes in the course of a stately dead-march across the stage. The other cuts in the text, notably the pilgrim scene, are more judicious.

There is an immediate and satisfying contrast between the well oiled, sometimes grotesquely stylized, attitudes of the courtiers in their filigreed finery and feathered hats, and the dowdy, slightly ungainly presence of Ian McKellen's malcontent herring whinging about the rewards of loyalty. Bosola's role in the drama is an exercise in perverse logic: loyal to the Cardinal, then to his Duke, his brother, then to his own sense of outrage at the Duchess's murder. Mr. McKellen brings exactly the right note of dogged integrity to the proceedings, like a mongrel challenging a succession of



Ian McKellen's malcontent herring

unsought-for masters to deny its faithfulness, its persistent and pathetic willingness to be useful. This Bosola is a bad penny of a villain, a scurrier down him for his shadow, and attempts to throttle him. Jonathan Hyde's Duke, and Edward Petherbridge's Cardinal, are a nice pair of Renaissance extremists, fastidious of speech and boundless in their malevolence. The former gives a credible account of a weak man, unbalanced by displaced incestuous impulses. The latter assumes the role of a mother substitute, who becomes, in the final scenes, frankly camp.

And inching towards us with infinite slowness, Eleanor Bron weaves a seductive web for the audience as well as for the unfortunate Antonio. It is as a kind of pre-Raphaelite beauty in a spangled snood that she is most effective; however once she lets her hair down and starts discovering virtue through suffering, disbelief remains suspended. I hope she will grow into this role, if only because she looks so ravishing, but I believe she has yet to feel her way fully down the fatal path.

Supper was ready in 20 minutes. It looked easy and delicious, though the director could have benefited from more camera angles. (There's a limit to how much enjoyment can be extracted from watching a still, distant shot of an onion sweating in half an ounce of butter.) I suspect the series will wear many people from their fish fingers, but there is one worry. Trying it on yourself is all very well - you need no apology for the cooking - but I am not so sure about anyone else. Delia Smith tried it on *ITV* (BBC1) recently and he found a fish-bone in his fennel. Rhubarb and Welsh rarebit were more the order of the day in *Shine on Harvey Moon* (Central), which began its fourth and last series at the time of the 1947 Royal Wedding. While excitement at the public marriage produced such lines as "Who do we know with a television set?", the Moore family were in the dismal process of separating. Harvey, a solicitor's clerk with tango-dancer's looks, has left Rita to live with his mother and landlady-cum-mistress.

In the course of the day everyone jumps to wrong conclusions. Rita thinks their son has polio. Harvey that his mistress has wrapped her thick foreign accent around someone else.

Though the plot and its juxtapositions were blatant, the dramatic effects were commendably oblique. Scenes were cut before their natural end, giving a sense of action still going on and the elusiveness of relationships that may not have ended. The script was intelligent and the acting on the whole accomplished, catching well the flavours, the fashions and behaviour of the period. The set too was faithful. A copy of the *Daily Mirror* - obviously an original - was yellow as tea.

Martin Cropper

Gallery

Heritage of jewelled colours

Trésors de l'Islam
Musée Rath, Geneva

Splendid as it is to have a major exhibition devoted to the treasures of Islam anywhere in the world, one might stop and wonder for a moment: why Geneva? Geneva is, of course, as the organizers insist, a city of dialogue and international meeting, but the answer seems in fact to be much more basic: several of the most important collectors in the world, whether themselves of Islamic heritage or not, live in the immediate area of the Suisse Romande, and so it has proved possible to put together this amazing show without having to negotiate with foreign museums and, perhaps even more importantly, without having to take into too serious account the bitter complaints of this or that Islamic faction that anything which does not fit in with its particular tenets (by showing love-making, for instance, by depicting the Prophet, or by

being figurative at all) is not to be counted as Islamic. The Musée Rath, where this show is to be seen until October 27, is also a plus factor: an elegant, not too overwhelmingly large space on two floors, it provides the perfect dark, rich jewel-casket for the display of such wonders. If there is anything wrong with the show, it is rather in the direction of surfeit in certain areas. The manuscript miniatures, for instance, are quite overwhelmingly crowded, and, beautiful though many of them are, they would be more expressive if there were fewer, nearer to the glass of the cases so that all their delights could be more readily deciphered by the naked eye. Outstanding among the manuscripts and manuscript fragments shown, for historical as well as artistic reasons, is the *World History* of Rashid al-Din, produced in Tabriz in 1314, but another, later Iranian book, *Shah Tahmasp's Book of Kings*, which dates from the early sixteenth century, contributes 22 miniatures to this

show, including the resplendent *Court of Gayumars*, often regarded as the high point of Persian miniature art. In fact, despite sectarian nagging about the role of representation, if any, in Islamic art, the majority of the most memorable works are in strong representational traditions, though the style of Afghan and Persian miniature painting was latterly subject to potent Western influences. It was strong enough to retain distinctness to the end of the nineteenth century, as some of the later Persian portraits amply demonstrate. Much of the most satisfying pottery too, whether it be the early (tenth-century) Mesopotamian earthenware or the gorgeously coloured Isnik ware from sixteenth-century Turkey, depends heavily for its effect on detailed representation: in later cases usually of plants. It is true, but much of the earlier material also prominently features animals and humans.

John Russell Taylor



Portrait of Hajji Mirza Aqasi, from Iran

Concerts

Philharmonia/Muti
Festival Hall

Poisoner and didact: Salierti and Cherubini took their revenge on mendacious musical history last night. In a programme whose ingenuity was just one sign of the welcome if temporary return of Riccardo Muti to the Philharmonia, Salierti was limited to Mozart, and Cherubini raised the curtain with dignified showmanship for Beethoven.

No matter that the rondo finale of Mozart's Flute Concerto No. 1 (James Galway), with its tumbling extravaganza of ideas, recalled one of the nastier moments on screen when Amadeus' earnestly eff-

ficient variations. He had ideas enough of his own, or so it seemed, the Philharmonia's lively advocacy of Salierti's 26 *Variations on "La folia di Spagna"*.

Muti concentrated, shrewdly, on the variety of instrumental writing, pitting it wittily against the variations' more predictable question and answer tactics. Little three-note chirrup was made to hide-and-seek their way in and out of the wind soloists in No 16, while No 22's oboe and clarinet lines were suspended with lithe grace.

Cherubini's hard fate as a "contemporary" (even if Beethoven did consider him his greatest) was mitigated by Muti's enthusiasm for the overture to his rescue opera *Loisaka*. The single horn note, the adagio which refuses to let the ear rest, the drumming of acceleration against serenity - all spoke with their own as well as *Fidelio*'s voice. And there, in a strange penultimate balm, was the happiest of notions: a tiny arietta for the real magic flute of the evening.

The only drawback of such a programme is its tendency to encourage the crescendo view of musical history, with in his case, Beethoven at the widest end. But this was the First Symphony and Muti, thrillingly, played on it as a springboard. He voyaged into the known with a sharp-eyed excitement which coursed through an orchestra revelling in solid nourishment after a period of rather too many vitamin pills.

Hilary Finch

CLS/Bremner
Barbican

After the bustling excitement of a full house at the Shell/LSO final on Wednesday, it dampened one's spirits to find the same hall deserted for the first British performance of the orchestral version of Shostako-

vich's Six Poems of Marina Tsvetayeva (the piano version, apparently, has already been given here). Not that the piece, composed in 1973, is exactly intended to gladden hearts. In many ways it can be seen as an extension of the composer's Fourteenth Symphony, with its prevailing atmosphere of pessimism and tragedy. It is hardly without significance that the poet fled the revolution and on her return to the Soviet Union during the last war faced her husband's execution, her daughter's incarceration and, ultimately, her own suicide.

Like the Fourteenth Symphony the cycle is written for small orchestra, but one even more sparingly deployed. The wind complement, a pair each of horns, flutes and bassoons, make their points the more tellingly for their rarity, and the percussion section (celeste, marimba, snare drum, and bass bells) is limited to strictly one instrument per song, thereby adding to each its own peculiar, often haunting colour. Even the strings have long rests.

Both words and music tellingly reflect Shostakovich's own dilemmas. The mocking majesty of "The Poet and the Tsar" bites as forcefully as anything the composer wrote, while "No, the side drum rolled" once more forges the link with Mahler's grimmest pseudo-martial music. It was then more of a pity that the soloist, Patricia Adkins Chitt, could not provide us with a more subtle expressivity or, indeed, a more accurate performance. And although the playing of the City of London Sinfonia was serviceable, the evident enthusiasm of the conductor, Michael Bremner, hitherto better known as a highly successful record producer, did not always communicate itself through the sounds we heard.

Stephen Pettitt

Television
Jolly good
for us all

Delia Smith once worked for a Fleet Street editor whose idea of cooking for himself was to sit in front of the television dunking grilled fish fingers into a jar of tartare sauce. This sorry sight, she tells us, inspired her present series which is aimed at enriching the plate of the lonely eater.

Appropriately, she devoted her second episode of *One is Fun!* (BBC2) to fish. She stood, her thumb in the gill of a trout-shaped oven glove, behind a spotless black kitchen surface from which strange perfumes hit the leaves of the adjacent pot-plant.

Like a no-nonsense nurse - "it's all very simple" - she briskly popped eggs into a haddock stock for a first course sole with home-made tartare sauce. For this she gave permission to use supermarket mayonnaise and even allowed us to add chunky gherkins and capers. "What could be nicer", she said, wiping her hand on a discreetly hidden towel.

Supper was ready in 20 minutes. It looked easy and delicious, though the director could have benefited from more camera angles. (There's a limit to how much enjoyment can be extracted from watching a still, distant shot of an onion sweating in half an ounce of butter.) I suspect the series will wear many people from their fish fingers, but there is one worry. Trying it on yourself is all very well - you need no apology for the cooking - but I am not so sure about anyone else. Delia Smith tried it on *ITV* (BBC1) recently and he found a fish-bone in his fennel. Rhubarb and Welsh rarebit were more the order of the day in *Shine on Harvey Moon* (Central), which began its fourth and last series at the time of the 1947 Royal Wedding. While excitement at the public marriage produced such lines as "Who do we know with a television set?", the Moore family were in the dismal process of separating. Harvey, a solicitor's clerk with tango-dancer's looks, has left Rita to live with his mother and landlady-cum-mistress.

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Nicholas
Shakespeare

John Dexter takes part in the Buxton Festival for the first time when he directs Puccini's opera *La huana figliola*. The festival, which runs from July 20 to August 11.

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SPORTING DIARY

Simon Barnes

Not all his way

Most of us would back the Lord's gatesmen against anybody when it comes to devotion to duty, but I fear they will be hard put to match the achievements of a Wimbledon steward. He managed to keep out the entire Frank Sinatra security entourage. Police at Wimbledon had been informed that there might be as many as 18 bodyguards to protect Sinatra. When the entourage went to the championships to check the place for their client, however, their efforts foundered on the rod of the steward. "I don't care who you are trying to protect, not even royalty," he said. "No one comes in here without a pass."

● The relentless Martina Navratilova is not normally regarded as the most appealing personality in top tennis. But surely no one who lists her favourite films as *Casablanca* and *Top Hat* can be all bad.

Unclubbed

Royal St George's golf course at Sandwich, host to next month's Open, is going to quite splendid lengths to protect the wild orchids that grow on the links. There are seven species growing around the course, with the lizard orchid the rarest. The course officials will fence in the plants, and place stewards there to make sure no one picks or tramples on them.

Desperate

The recent World Cup qualifying match between Brazil and Paraguay was marked by the pitch invasion of a football-obsessed former exile. The man, who had just returned to Brazil from Italy, (where he had been sentenced to a year in jail for currency offences), rushed on to the pitch, prostrated himself at the feet of the player Zico, and began kissing his boots, until at last he was escorted away by the police.

Truth will out . . .

The question of being "timed out" in cricket is raised by J. K. Walters, challenging my assertion that no first-class cricketer has been dismissed in this way. He cites a match mentioned in the current Wisden, which took place in 1919. Mr H. J. Heygate, crippled with rheumatism, lay down as number 11, but for Sussex against Somerset. The scores were level with a single wicket left to fall. When Heygate failed to appear, a fielder appealed, and though Wisden remarks this was "very unsportsmanlike", the umpire had no option but to declare the match over. However, the point is that Heygate was not dismissed. He was marked on the scorecard as "absent". It is only since 1980 that a batsman could actually be dismissed "timed out".

... or will it?

A letter in my pigeonhole this week reads as follows: "Simon Barnes is wrong to say that it was an innovation in 1980 that a batsman who did not step onto the field of play, within two minutes, was considered out. I was playing for my regiment against the Maharajah of Bengal's XI at Madras in 1933 when the Maharajah's elderly uncle, who was batting number eight, did not appear for five minutes. Eventually he arrived on the field in a sedan chair, having ridden his back putting his pads on. His highness now proposed to bat from the sedan chair, and for his bearers to carry it. Seven wickets were lost before the opportunity of runs occurred. The colonel who was umpiring, had the delicate and diplomatic task of telling the fellow that he had been given out as a result of the time taken to get on to the field. No mention was made of the sedan chair."

Yours sincerely, P. W. Blenkinsop Major, ret'd.

To my deep and lasting regret, I must point out that there has never been a Maharajah of Bengal, nor was any Major Blenkinsop obtainable at the telephone Somerset. But I'm sure that in a perfect world, the story would have been true.

BARRY FANTONI



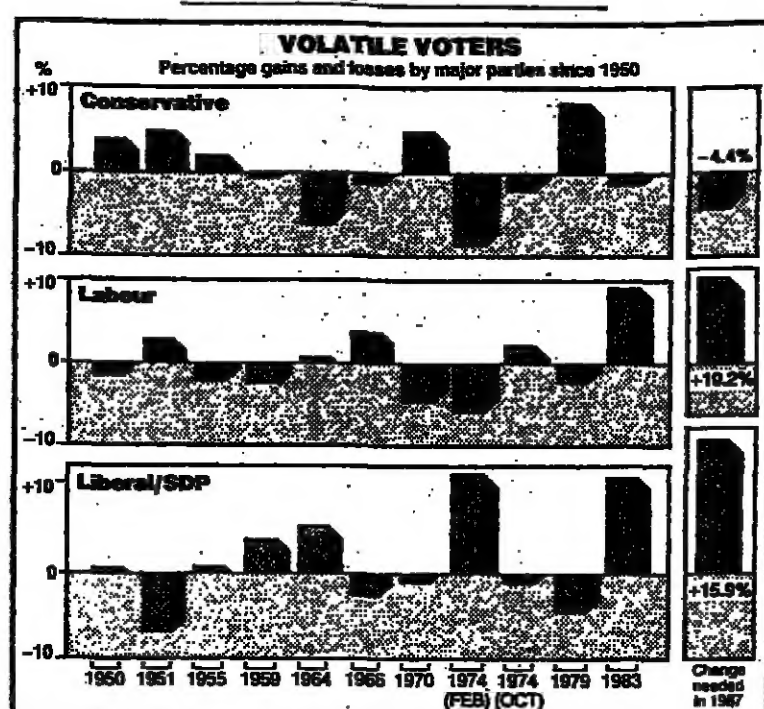
"Lend me a fiver, I backed McEneaney for Wimbledon and Labour for Brecon and Radnor"

Jump to it

We are still a month away from the National Hunt season and the first sighting shots of winter, but a horse named Tar's Hill attempted to take time by the forelock at Chesham on Saturday. The animal was a four-length winner in the Andover Conservative Club Handicap, and finished so full of running that he charged on to the chase course with the jockey, John Williams, straining to pull him up. Tar's Hill galloped straight at the nearest fence and soared over it, before slowing to a walk. "That was a shock," said Williams afterwards. "I thought I had given up jump racing."

Brecon's three-way signpost

David Butler sees hope for all parties in the latest by-election results



| | | | |
|--|-------|-----|-----|
| base against which analyses of change are, necessarily, made: | | | |
| Con | 42.4 | 397 | 326 |
| Lab | 27.6 | 209 | 256 |
| Alln | 25.4 | 23 | 47 |
| If there were a uniform movement across the country to give each party one-third of the votes, this would be the outcome: | | | |
| Con | 33% | 266 | 326 |
| Lab | 33% | 285 | 256 |
| Alln | 33% | 78 | 65 |
| The Alliance suffers because its strength is so evenly spread. Consider the minimum swings needed for a clear victory for each party, if the other two were equal: | | | |
| Con | 38.0% | 326 | 326 |
| Lab | 30.5% | 256 | 256 |
| Alln | 30.4% | 47 | 47 |
| Conservative or Labour need about 38 per cent of the vote to get a clear victory. The Alliance needs 41 per cent. | | | |
| For Labour to get 38 per cent would require a 10 per cent | | | |

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The author is a Fellow of Nuffield College, Oxford.

improvement on its last election performance - something that neither major party has achieved for 40 years. Consider the record on the graph.

On average the percentages for each of the two larger parties have shifted only 3.4 per cent between successive elections and the maximum gain since 1945 has been 8 per cent. The Liberal changes have been greater (often through a change in the number of candidates) but they have averaged on 4.1 per cent, with a maximum of 11.8 per cent.

To win a clear majority in the next election Labour needs a gain of at least 10.2 per cent over 1983; the Alliance needs a gain of 15.9 per cent. Only the Conservatives (who can stand a loss of 4.4 per cent) have by post-war precedent much chance of securing a working majority.

But the future does not always resemble the past. Post-war no general election since 1945 has seen 100 seats change hands. But with one exception, every general election in the first half of the century provided a genuine landslide - a turnover of more than 100.

Perhaps we are moving back to that era. The swings since 1970 have been twice as great as in 1945-70. The sort of volatility demonstrated in Brecon does perhaps offer to Neil Kinnock - or even to the two Davids - a dream of landfalls that may not be wholly unrealistic.

But to put Brecon and Radnor into perspective it may be as well to look again at Rochdale. In February 1988, two years before Harold Macmillan's general election triumph, the Conservatives lost that by-election when their share of the vote dropped from 51 per cent to 19 per cent. Therefore there is no reason to conclude that the disaffected voters of Brecon have necessarily sounded the knell for Thatcher's rule.

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THREE HORSE RACE

The Brecon by-election result is (though only just) the one which the Conservatives least wanted. Indeed, the outcome verges on being that which some Conservatives were describing during the campaign as a potential disaster for their party. That is not simply a reaction to the drastic drop of over 20 per cent in the Tory share of the vote, or even to their relegation from first to third place in the poll. Conservative concern arises rather from their belief that if they have to be beaten in a mid-Parliamentary election, the Government (in itself a routine political occurrence) they would rather be defeated by Labour than by the Alliance.

An Alliance victory on such a scale and in such a constituency as Brecon, has been understandably feared in the Tory camp as dangerously promoting the credibility of the Social Democratic and Liberal Alliance as a political force which could cost the Tories their overall majority at the next general election, or even hand a complete victory to Labour. So long as the political struggle can be presented as giving the electorate a straight choice between Labour and the Conservatives when it comes to a choice of government, the Conservatives believe they have little reason to fear.

Despite Mr Kinnock's public affability, and the great care now being taken by the Labour frontbench to present a moderate front, the Conservatives believe, with some reason, that once they can focus the electorate's close attention on the realities of Labour policy in a general election, the majority of voters will not desert Mr Thatcher to make Mr Kinnock king - if that is the perceived choice.

There is much in this belief. Labour's policies are an unconvincing and incoherent muddle born of a need to compromise between extremism and expediency. In particular, Mr Hatters-

ley's bombastic moderation on economic policy hardly conceals the emptiness of content and the political stresses which would prevent the party from treading its own path from initial folly to a kind of repentance. Labour would again follow the old path of inflationary spending and borrowing, with exploded hopes of deals with the unions. But at the end of that road, is the party now in a condition to allow the last resort rectitude of the Callaghan-Healey period? Or would it insist next time on a socialist siege economy?

There is no evidence that the latter would be avoided, or that Labour would do better with employment than the Tories. On many other issues as well, including defence and law and order, the electorate is plainly closer to Mrs Thatcher than to Mr Kinnock, whatever its present disenchantment with the Prime Minister.

On all these grounds, the Conservatives want as straight a fight as they can get with Labour at the general election, and they would not have been much put out by losing Brecon to Labour, at any rate on a modest swing.

Indeed, those Conservatives who have become increasingly worried by Mrs Thatcher's unpopularity, by her apparent reluctance to listen to constructive criticism from her own party, and by her appearance of trying to conduct the Cabinet as though it were a one-woman band, have tended to comfort themselves with the reflection that a Labour victory would be positively beneficial. It would wake the Prime Minister up; remind her that the electorate is not to be taken for granted.

The Alliance victory at Brecon, however, is perceived by the Tories differently. Alliance support is running at around 30 per cent in the opinion polls compared with about 34 per cent for each of the other parties.

That looks ominously like a three-party situation and there is solid statistical evidence that the Alliance vote rises, it is the Conservatives who chiefly suffer. If a genuine third-party option now seems credible, former Conservative voters may be much less willing than in the past to return to their old allegiance in a general election.

Yet for the Conservatives to worry only about the Alliance's credibility could be short-sighted. Mrs Thatcher in the last resort has Labour's credibility to fear even more, and if Labour had taken Brecon it could have been a sign that Labour's new posture of moderation was being taken at face value. In the event, the earlier Brecon polls showing Labour on the way to a major victory obviously frightened many voters and led to heavy switching to the Alliance to keep Labour out. If from one point of view that is a worry for Mrs Thatcher, it cannot make Mr Kinnock feel too comfortable.

Mrs Thatcher has a major task of public communication ahead of her. She has been subjected to a savage personal campaign of which Labour's "that woman" rhetoric is one disagreeable manifestation. She is accused of being hard-faced, of damaging the social services and of not caring about unemployment. She has a need both to reassure the nation that the Government has a coherent approach to creating work, and to convince it that the essential elements of the social services (notably the hospitals) it has spent more in real terms. She has to face the fact that she has a Government which looks stale and has run out of steam, often allowing its attention to be deflected from the essential to the secondary.

This year she intends a reshuffle of her Cabinet. Brecon is further reason for doing this before rather than after the parliamentary recess.

SUNRISE AND ECLIPSE

Much of Britain's traditional manufacturing industry has suffered severe contraction in recent years. The so-called sunrise industries - electronics and information technology - have been a notable exception, growing at rapid rates and fast becoming a more significant part of our national output than historically weighted statistics allow. The City financial markets have been captivated by the rates of expansion achieved and promised, and the sheer size of world market opportunities. Politicians and many industrialists have insisted, or assumed, that British companies could play a leading role in this worldwide revolution if only we had the courage and determination to do so. Just at this moment, that vision is turning sour.

The spectacularly rapid financial crises at the Acorn and Sinclair personal computer companies could be dismissed as the necessary faltering of fast-moving entrepreneurial businesses caught by a sudden change in market fashions as the British, who had rushed to bring the new technologies to their living rooms, offices and schools, decided they had taken enough of the novelty for the moment. The series of bad financial results from the leading British electronics companies this week - ranging from the merely disappointing to the disastrous - was an accident of the accounting calendar which added to the shocked reactions of the finance expansion. Yet both these are powerful reminders that the vision of Britain leading the world into the

information technology revolution will certainly prove only a dream unless all involved engage in some serious rethinking and restructuring of our industry.

As the new ventures show their fallibility, it becomes clear that success will depend on these leading firms. They operate under the severe disadvantage that the British home market is so much smaller than those in the United States, Japan, or even Germany. The idea that free trade within the European Community would somehow redress this balance has failed in crucial markets such as telephone equipment and military electronics as well as markets nearer the consumer. Indeed, while the United States has pressed Japan to divert at least nominal public purchasing to foreign companies, there is little hope of anything approaching a common market between the European nations.

Within this closed system, Britain is relatively open, as recent British Telecom orders have confirmed. Indeed, the industry regards the new commercially hard attitudes of the privatized telephone monopoly, as buyer, competitor and potential competitor in manufacturing, as a serious blow.

Partly in consequence, British firms may be too small to finance the draining research and development programme needed to keep up in the technical race or to take the strain of the high risks of operating at the limits of production technology in highly competitive markets which are only now in the process of being created.

ANYONE FOR LOSING?

The lightning that struck Wimbledon on the first day of the tournament a fortnight ago may have been an omen. On the first day small chunks of masonry were torn from the new press centre. By the last day, still larger cracks had appeared in the domination of men's tennis by the top seeds.

John McEnroe had gone. The man who said he wanted our respect and gave us insults in return had been defeated by a tougher (if politer) version of himself. The great old grunter, Jimmy Connors, had fallen to the same Kevin Curren. Still better, Ivan Lendl, a money-making machine with little compensating grace, had been defeated by an elegant Frenchman, Henri Leconte, who actually seemed to enjoy playing tennis.

Of course some of the tension

went out of the championship when the champions fell. The BBC's early evening news bulletin chose as the day's top story the fact of McEnroe's fall. It was as if the tournament ended on Wednesday, not at the weekend. We like the idea of newcomers, yet we also feel cheated. The grinding (even grunting) determination of a victory for the top seeds is a comfortable pleasure.

It is the delight of Wimbledon that it keeps these different emotions in play - and holds so many of us concentrating on the images from the 21 television cameras that bring this event into our living rooms. The weather always plays a part in creating uncertainty; so does the playing surface. Down in SW19 tennis is still played on a lawn - despite the preference of the big-league players with their big-bank mentalities for courts that

are as predictable as their accountants wish their earning curves to be. It is reassuring that lawn tennis continues to be lawn tennis, even if the home players seem to get little home advantage from it.

The British hopefuls have done as badly as usual. Lloyd, Durie and Croft may have their hopes but their admirers by and large do not. The certainty of British failure has its own subtle pleasure. What can be a depressing defeatist trait in the more serious aspects of our national life is somehow acceptable over a tennis net.

At Wimbledon we like our sure losers - a feeling that spreads also to those unexpected losers from abroad. When John McEnroe returns here next year he may find that many of his problems with the press and people of Britain are behind him.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Political pressure and hostages

From Mr John Wilton

Sir, You argue in your leading article of July 2 that for the Americans to put pressure on Israel to release Shabites taken hostage by Israel in Lebanon would lead to third-party kidnapping occurring with ever greater frequency.

It would not do so unless the conditions existed which held out some expectation that it could succeed. Nobody would kidnap a group of Paraguayans or Siamese in the expectation of putting pressure on Israel.

The Americans were kidnapped because the American Government is capable of exerting effective pressure on the Government of Israel which could not, without consistent American support, financial, political and through the sale of arms, continue its policy of extending its frontiers at the expense of its neighbours and enforcing its claims by retaliatory raids, pre-emptive invasions and the taking of hostages - all of which actions the Government of the United States condemns when they are practised by governments other than that of Israel.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN WILTON,
Wilmere Lodge,
Middleton Stoney,
Oxfordshire,
July 3.

No joking matter

From Mrs Yvette M. Newbold

Sir, Years ago I travelled with a senior colleague who hissed loudly, "Terrible. We got the bazooka through" as we exited from the customs hall in Lagos. He waved a long, leather drum which innocently contained his flip-chart presentation for the next day. Hardly the stuff to make one wipe one's eye perhaps but the reaction was swift. He was born away by customs officials and not released for many hours. He refused to divulge precise details of the search which had taken place, but he was remarkably silent at points of arrival and departure thereafter.

I do not know what effect this tactic has on the incidence of mirth at Lagos, but my guess is that it fell off sharply. Known, I believe, as getting the last laugh, it would not doubt be fully approved for application here, both by Ian Lloyd (July 3) who has appealed to Heathrow officials to display a sense of humour and, more to the point, by the officials themselves, the travelling public, absolutely nothing.

Yours faithfully,
YVETTE M. NEWBOLD,
40 Devonshire Place Mews, W1,
July 3.

From the Reverend Robert Llewellyn, Sir, Mr Ian Lloyd (July 3) should read again *Arsenic and Old Lace*. I seem to remember that when the old lady told the policeman that there were lots more bodies in the cellar he thought it so funny that he did not bother to look.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT LLEWELLYN,
80A King Street,
Newick, Norfolk,
July 3.

Exchange rate policy

From Mr Martin Weale

Sir, Sarah Hogg (July 1) raises the need for an exchange rate policy to complement a regime in which the Government abandons monetary targets and instead adopts a planned outcome for money GDP. Surely the appropriate framework is that of a crawling peg.

Since a projection for money GDP provides a constraint which is easily understood and does not rely on particular theories about the workings of the financial economy, the exchange rate target can be defined in real terms. A low real exchange rate acts as a stimulus to profits and investment. It thus seems natural to vary the exchange rate target range so as to try to achieve a satisfactory rate of investment in the economy.

It is true that holding the real exchange rate within a target range would require active management. A mix of interest rate adjustment and intervention would be necessary to achieve the desired stability. However, the adoption of a credible managed regime should in itself be stabilising and thus reduce the extent to which the two instruments of monetary policy have to be manipulated.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN WEALE,
Department of Applied Economics,
University of Cambridge,
Sidgwick Avenue,
Cambridge,
July 1.

A Grub Street ride

From Mr Ian Dyck

Sir, First the BBC and now *The Times* ("Rural rides - with a hitch", June 29) have joined in the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the death of William Cobbett. This publicity is welcome, but it is essential that we do not forget Cobbett's attitude towards *The Times* itself, given that we are now in the 200th year of that celebrated publication.

Cobbett abhorred *The Times*. As a Tory he dismissed it as a "most corrupt", "Government-dependent organ", "conceived in sin and brought forth in iniquity". As a radical, his contempt deepened, and he always failed to see *The Times* as a possible ally in the struggle against "Old Corruption".

On a number of issues (including the Lord Melville case, Post Office corruption, Peterloo and Queen

Bar's case for two-branch profession

From the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Bar

Sir, Mr Alastair Brett, in his article (July 3) is described simply as "a solicitor". He is indeed a senior legal assistant to *The Times*. Plainly he is no admirer of the Bar. Fortunately, we believe his views are not shared either by The Law Society, or by most solicitors.

Most solicitors, whether they practise in large city firms or in smaller firms up and down the land, value the existence of an independent, specialist Bar.

They recognize that it is in the public interest to have a strong and experienced Bar which is available to all solicitors - and hence to all clients - throughout the length and breadth of the country. They recognize, too, that if that separate body of specialist advocates is to continue, then some degree of protection of rights of audience may be necessary.

Mr Brett's exhortation to solicitors to take up arms seems to run along these lines: "Solicitors are under attack. Therefore the Bar should also be under attack. And it should be the solicitors who should be the Bar's attackers."

The chain of reasoning is not immediately apparent. What about the public interest? Is an independent, specialist Bar of value? Mr Brett never considers this, and no doubt this is why he ignores the report of the royal commission chaired by Lord Benson. This accepted that our present system makes available specialist skills for the conduct of cases in court and for advice preparatory to trial.

The commission was against fusion and in favour of the present boundaries between the two halves of the profession. It recognized that solicitors considered this division served the public interest. The commission did not consider a fused system would save expense. The royal commission concluded on the issue of fusion as follows:

With regard to the administration of justice, the weight of evidence is strongly in favour of a two-branch profession.

It is more likely than a fused one to ensure the high quality of advocacy which is indispensable, so long as our system remains in its present form, to secure the proper quality of justice. These considerations lead us to the conclusion that it is in the public interest for the legal profession to be organized, at present, in two branches.

These conclusions, which those who knock the Bar never cite, answer most of the other criticisms advanced by Mr Brett. These are designed to erode the separation within the profession and to achieve fusion gradually.

Those who really care about the strength of our legal system, and the quality of future judges, should set their sights at the right targets. We do not suggest that every practice at the Bar is necessarily perfect; as a profession we have a duty to ensure that we adapt where necessary to serve the public properly.

Fundamentally the value of a divided legal profession remains. In a recent debate on the first reading of Mr Austin Mitchell's Legal Profession Reform Bill, Mr David

Sumner - himself a solicitor - said this: "The Commission concluded that the restriction of the rights of audience in the legal profession under-planned the profession and was in the public interest. This is why this Conservative Government accepted those recommendations. It is the merits of the argument, not what Mr Brett describes as 'political clout', which preserve our system. We should devote our efforts to strengthening rather than seeking to destroy it."

Yours etc,
DAVID CALCUTT, Chairman of the Bar.
ROBERT ALEXANDER, Vice-Chairman.
The Senate of the Inns of Court and the Bar,
11 South Square,
Gray's Inn, WC1.
July 4.

From Mr Basil Yoxall

Sir, Alastair Brett's assertion that the practising Bar has friends in high places and has privileges to be envied and taken away has barristers up and down the country rolling on the floor with laughter.

What are the privileges of the Bar which are so eagerly sought after? Is it the right to be pathetically underpaid for criminal legal aid work (£127 per day maximum refreshers fee)? Is it the right to wait to be underpaid for civil legal aid work? Is it the right to be almost impotent in the face of delay in and non-payment of fees?

After years of grasping on to the largely unjustified and expensive conveyancing monopoly and of persisting in a manifestly unjust complaints and discipline system, any call to solicitors to go into battle against the Bar in the interests of the public does sound a bit odd.

Why the sudden urge for reform? Is it the public interest or is it the wish to make money in a new field to make up for the loss of the conveyancing monopoly? No doubt it is the former. If it is a wish to make money then it is badly misplaced.

If partners in firms are looking to advance in the higher courts so that they can make, say, £50 per hour (a very reasonable sum) for every hour, every day, to cover their overheads they had better think again. Legal aid won't pay them this and most private clients won't either. And while the partner is on his feet being underpaid, who will be taking care of the heavy workload at his office?

At a time when both branches of the legal profession are under attack it is folly for solicitors to turn on the Bar. What solicitors must do is to make the maximum use of the Bar. The public may think otherwise, but it is cost-effective to do so.

As for high judicial office - this must be open to all who have good judgement in the law. However, to attack the Bar in the way Mr Brett proposed does not show good judgement.

Yours,
BASIL YOXALL,
7 Stone Buildings,
Lincoln's Inn, WC2.
July 3.

Credit-card fraud

From Mr Nick M. Rowe

Sir, I write following Dr Peter Kann's comments (June 27) on credit-card fraud through the abuse of the traditional piece of carbon paper. Diners Club International have already introduced a carbon-less charge form to ease usage within service establishments and to eliminate this area of potential fraud.

In addition Diners Club members can apply for an insurance package.

Future of the Lyceum

From Mr Arnold Whittick

Sir, The letter of Sir John Gielgud and others (July 1) on the future of the Lyceum Theatre is very much to be welcomed.

Among many others, I imagine, I cherish a particular affection for this theatre. It was the first in London that I visited when, in 1910, I saw Mathews Lang's Hamlet, which is still vivid in my mind. My family occupied the front row of the gallery. The seats I remember were sixpence (2½p in present money).

Stonehenge festival

From Dr John M. Howell

Sir, It would be a pity if Mr Chippindale's opinions on Stonehenge (feature, June 29) were to be regarded as the view of the whole archaeological profession. While I have no objection to a National Trust festival around Stonehenge, any more than I have for the son of *Juniere* at Hampton Court, let us at least make any festival relevant to the monument, its history and landscape.

It seems to me that Mr Chippindale's brand of *laissez-faire* journalistic archaeology will set back by a

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Yours faithfully,
NICK M. ROWE,
Managing Director,
Diners Club International Ltd.,
The Diners Club Ltd.,
Diners Club House,
Kingsmead,
Farnborough,
Hampshire,
July 3.

This experience engendered a love of this theatre which I subsequently frequently visited, because I thought of it as the finest in London. I, too, was very saddened when in 1939 it ceased to function as a theatre.

I sincerely hope it will be revived and continue the tradition of its former glorious use.

Yours faithfully,
ARNOLD WHITTICK,
4 Newthorpe,
Gosport, Green,
Crawley,
West Sussex,
July 2.

decade the efforts of the discipline, with the help particularly of the BBC, to put across to the public the face of real archaeology. It is the responsibility not only of the owners of ancient monuments but of all of us who have studied them and the societies which produced them to make the history and prehistory of our monuments more accessible to the public.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN M. HOWELL,
The University of Liverpool,
Department of Prehistoric Archaeology,
14 Abercromby Square,
PO Box 147, Liverpool.

as often, Cobbett neglected to mention the full story, namely that *The Times* was also among the first voices to criticize the severity of the prosecutions.

Many of the exchanges between Cobbett and *The Times* were good-humoured, with Cobbett saying that he used the paper to wrap the lunches of his workers, and with *The Times* scolding Cobbett's farming practice and the not inconsiderable size of his "paunder".

In the end, there was no clear winner, but from *The Times* came magnanimity at Cobbett's death: "this self-taught peasant... was perhaps, in some respects, a more extraordinary Englishman than any other of his time."

Yours sincerely,
IAN DYCK,
8 Sussex Square,
Brighton,
June 30.

ON THIS DAY

JULY 6 1911

The years 1910 and 1911 saw a wave of labour disputes and strikes in England in which railway workers, cotton operatives, ironworkers, miners, seamen and dockers were involved. The incidents at Manchester were not as serious as many which took place in other parts of the country - they are symptomatic of the unrest of the period.

RIOTS IN MANCHESTER

DESPATCH OF TROOPS AND LONDON POLICE

At the invitation of the Lord Mayor of the city, Mr G. R. Askwith, and Mr Mitchell, of the Board of Trade, travelled to Manchester yesterday afternoon, and last night Mr Askwith presided at a conference of representatives of the employers and their men concerned in the dockers' and carters' strike.

Last evening, owing to the seriousness of the position, the G Squadron of the Scots Greys, stationed at York, were despatched by special train to Manchester to assist in maintaining order.

In London further trouble is threatened by a strike of men engaged by the General Steam Navigation Company in boats on the Thames. The strike of dockers on the Tyne has been settled, but the seamen and their employers are still unable to agree. The loss caused to traders and others by the series of strikes is very heavy.

THE MANCHESTER STRIKES

The position in Manchester yesterday was less quiet than on Tuesday, but it was far from satisfactory. Early in the morning there were several scenes of violence. Between 200 and 300 policemen were despatched to the docks where they were attacked by an angry crowd. Stones and other missiles were thrown, and several constables were injured, one being knocked off his horse. The police charged and the rioters were routed, but could make no impression upon them, and eventually the rioters returned to the yard, the rioters raising a loud shout of triumph when they realized that they had achieved their end.

SWORDS DRAWN BY THE POLICE

In Stafford a crowd which endeavoured to stop the passage of two loads of coal to the cotton mill became so unruly that the police, after many showers of stones that the police, after making several baton charges, drew swords and waved them above their heads. This had a calming effect on the rioters, and there was no need to use the batons. Sixty persons were pulled from their horses and had to be removed to hospital. About a dozen rioters who were arrested on Tuesday were brought before the Manchester stipendiary magistrate yesterday, and penalties varying from a fine of 10s. and costs to imprisonment for three months were imposed. As the Chief Constable and the Chairman of the Watch Committee were driving along Deansgate a window of their carriage was broken by a brick. Sixty persons, including about a dozen policemen, have been treated at the hospitals for minor injuries.

TERMS REFUSED BY THE DOCKERS

A meeting of between 3,000 and 4,000 dock labourers was held in the morning to consider the terms of settlement offered by the Manchester Ship Canal Company. The point upon which they were asked to vote was put to them in following terms:

Will you accept the conditional arrangement of 4s. 6d. a day for certain work and 6s. for other work? If you do, we shall be bound to accept the offer. It may mean the prolongation of the strike for an indefinite period, with no knowledge of how it is going to end. The one object on which you have to vote is whether we stand by the *de minimis* or whether we agree to accept the Canal offer.

The meeting unanimously voted in favour of the *de minimis*, and instructed their officials not to discuss other terms until that point was settled. The secretary (Mr. Wignall) stated that the strike committee were just as strongly in favour of standing out for 6s. a day as the men.

The taxman's shovel

From Professor Charles Arnold-Baker

Sir, Further to Mr Stobart (June 29) on the taxman's extravagance: the taxman might begin at home. I attract the activity of four separate tax offices and a fifth has just been re-opened. I surmise that they intercommunicate by runner through Tibet. I cannot otherwise explain the three-year effort to settle each of my quite uncontentious annual liabilities. The effort must cost a good deal more than I have to pay.

Am I unique? Investigative journalism might reveal others.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES ARNOLD-BAKER,
Top Floor,
2 Paper Buildings,
Temple, EC4.
June 30.

Match point

From Mr I. A. Lashbrooke

Sir, There is a more simple solution to the match box problem than that proposed by Dr Rowe (July 2) - simply open the match box in a vertical position. Is this a lateral thought?

Yours faithfully,
IAN LASHBROOKE,
The Royal Masonic Hospital,
Ravenscourt Park, W6,
July 2.

Little-known phrases

From Dr Claire Johnson

Sir, Miles Kingston (July 2) has raised the issue of unusual foreign phrases. Might I add one that I needed last summer but which was not listed in the usual handbooks.

"Madam my son has been bitten by a mole. Has rabies reached this part of France?"

Yours faithfully,
CLAIRE JOHNSON,
8 Lassa Road,
Eltham, SE9,
July 3.

July 6 - 12, 1985

SATURDAY

A weekly guide
to leisure, entertainment
and the artsSteeple
chasingEngland's 17,000 parish churches
are a treasury of architecture and
a vital source of social history.Nigel Andrew goes on a church "crawl"
to sample their scale and variety

It is market day in Olney. The pleasant little Buckinghamshire town is unusually busy, and parking is a problem. But never mind that, we are here for the church. And it certainly can't be missed. As you approach Olney, the great steeple is visible from far away, and in the town it seems to follow you around, suddenly appearing over every rooftop and round every corner. The setting of this church, at the very end of the town in meadowland beside the river Ouse is wonderful. Conveniently close to the M1, it is a good starting point for a day's church-crawl.

Church-crawling - visiting churches for pleasure - is among the most popular English pastimes. It is also one of the least publicized and, happily, least organized. Anyone can do it, almost anytime, almost anywhere.

According to a report by the English Tourist Board, *English Churches and Visitors* (£6.50), around 10 million visits to churches are made every year - and it is amazing the figure is not higher, when you consider the riches on offer. There are almost 17,000 parish churches in England, more than 11,000 of which are listed buildings, and of these some 3,000 are rated Grade A or equivalent. Even to see all the medieval churches would, at the unlikely rate of one a day, take nearly 30 years!

But the bare statistics cannot convey the sheer variety and abundance of interest. The English Tourist Board has carried out research into which features most attract visitors to churches, and they are, in descending order - monuments, architecture, glass, towers, fonts, associations with people, brasses, and the setting. One of the most irresistible combinations is a picturesque setting and strong associations with a poet - as at Wordsworth's Grasmere. Gray's Stoke Poges, and indeed Cowper's Olney. For it was here that William Cowper lived and wrote, and collaborated with the Rector, John Newton, the man who wrote "Amazing Grace", as a notice in the church reminds us. The next church on the route is, by contrast, unspoiled and full of atmosphere - Clifton Reynes, a lovely little building in a small village, and chock-a-block with good monuments. The building is rather an architectural jigsaw - and that

too can be part of the charm of church-crawling. The expert can tease out the chronology, while novices can simply enjoy the feel of centuries of change and continuity.

Visiting churches can be done on an entirely casual basis. Just drive, or cycle, or walk, and see what turns up wherever you are in the country, you are bound to be quite near something good. If you are in Somerset, you will be surrounded by superb towers. In Devon exquisite screens, in Northamptonshire beautiful spires, in Suffolk and across the Cotswolds the wealth of the great "wool churches", in Norfolk and Lincolnshire fine churches in unparalleled profusion. Be warned though: you may end up addicted, unable to pass a church without dropping in.

But for today, in the Ouse valley, we are on a systematic crawl, and next stop is Turvey, a big and impressive church, part of which is 1,000 years old. It has a magnificent array of tombs and effigies, fascinating to examine. One long-dead knight rests his head on a helmet gashed by a war-wound, and crested with a screaming man; another lies with his feet curiously balanced on the tips of his spurs.

Turvey also has a splendid medieval painting of the Crucifixion - described by *The Times* in 1933 as "the finest painting of its subject and time in the country". The cutting, has been framed and hung on a wall. Medieval churches were full of such paintings: indeed every surface had some kind of colour on it. Walls, inside and out, were rendered and whitewashed (or colour-washed), and paintings and decorative patterning covered the whole interior in colour. With the ravages of time, the vandalism of the puritan tendency, and the "scraping" activities of the Victorians, who insisted on bare stone - little of this colour remains.

We call in at the pub in Turvey - this too is all part of the fun. Church-crawling and pub-crawling go remarkably well together (licensing hours permitting) - and this for good historical reasons. There was always an ale-house close to the church, because ale was needed at festival times. But it is time to move on to the next church,



Reflective mood: Olney church with its great steeple, a single soaring vertical in peaceful landscape



Church-crawl: Nigel Andrew's route through the Ouse valley

Pavenham. And here we encounter for the first time a familiar obstacle: a locked church door.

There is now a ritual to be gone through. First you look under the mat, then under the old flower vase and behind the notices, then in every nook and cranny of the porch, and finally you realize that one of the notices tells you who to collect the key from. Whether you search out the key depends on how promising the church seems, and how much time you have.

It is all too easy to write about churches without so much as mentioning what it is, after all, their framework, the Christian religion. In some cases this is forgivable: many 18th-century churches, for example, are entirely lacking in spirituality. But when you encounter a church like Felmersham - the next on our itinerary - you are forcibly reminded that the aim of the medieval builders was, quite simply, to bring men to their knees. This near-perfect building in the Early English style - the first of the Gothic, pointed-arched idiom - is unmistakably a house of God, the sort of building in which you can only surrender to the totality and gasp.

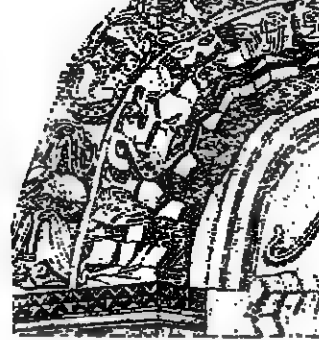
The west front is probably the most beautiful of any parish church. And this, aptly enough, is the only building where we find living evidence of the continuity of parish life. Here is a local lady doing the flowers for a wedding. The bridesmaids are in mauve - a difficult colour", she says.

After Felmersham, the rest is bound to be an anti-climax - and besides we are running out of time. This is always a problem with the pre-planned church-crawl: there is just too much to see. Sharnbrook has its tower encased in scaffolding. Odell is locked. Harrold we overshoot and, turning back, find a rather dull interior. Along the valley then to Lavendon, a handsome old church with herringbone patterns visible in the stonework of the tower, said to be early 11th-century. The trouble is that, by this stage of a church-crawl - especially if it is tightly organized - you are beginning to suffer a surfeit. You become a touch blasé and ungrateful. Beginner, please note - do not tackle too many churches in one day.

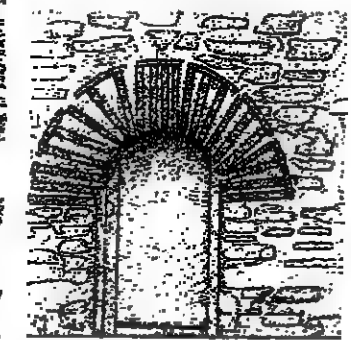
But then we are heading back towards the glorious spire of Olney, a single soaring vertical in the wide landscape. Church-crawling: a large part of the pleasure of living in England.



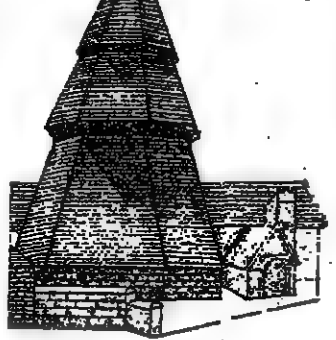
Ashbourne, Derbyshire (St Oswald): Monument to the child Penelope Boothby, sculpted in 1793



Kilpeck, Herefordshire (St Mary & St David): Wonderful example of a late Norman village church. The sumptuous carvings have lasted exceptionally well



Brixworth, Northamptonshire (All Saints): Big and impressive early Saxon building (c680) with Roman bricks (pictured above) re-used around the arches



Brookland, Kent (St Augustine): An eccentric jumble which escaped Victorian restoration. Two unique features: the 12th-century lead font and (above) the detached bellry

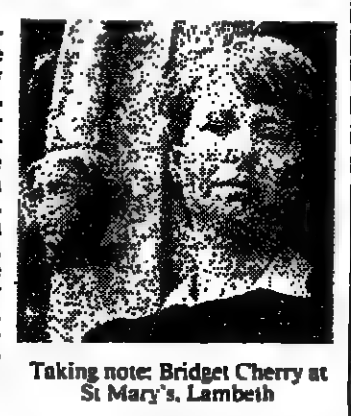
In the footsteps
of the master

Bridget Cherry edits the *Buildings of England* series - those volumes which will probably always be known as "Pevsners", after Sir Nikolaus, their founding editor. (Somehow "Cherrys" doesn't have the same ring.) Churches are, of course, a huge part of the contents. Bridget Cherry's own interest in them goes back to her teens, when she would cycle round the parishes of Oxfordshire. Later she studied history at Oxford, and English Romanesque architecture at the Courtauld Institute in London, and then started helping with revisions of "Pevsner".

I talked to her in the 17th-century garden of St Mary's, Lambeth, a medieval London church which was saved from demolition in the late 1970s. It is now a Museum of Garden History and a permanent memorial to the Tradescants, the great gardeners whose parish church it was. To Bridget Cherry, St Mary's is a classic case of the salutary effects of the demolition threat: suddenly everyone realizes what historical riches are at risk. There are probably hundreds of other churches of equal interest.

She sees churches as, first and foremost, "tangible history" - buildings which express in a nutshell whole centuries of changing tastes and aspirations. She is also fascinated by their paradoxical nature: the churches seem to be about two contradictory things - the whole business of time and change, and the yearning for something outside all that.

Bridget Cherry is working on the revision of Pevsner's Devon, and on the new two-volume

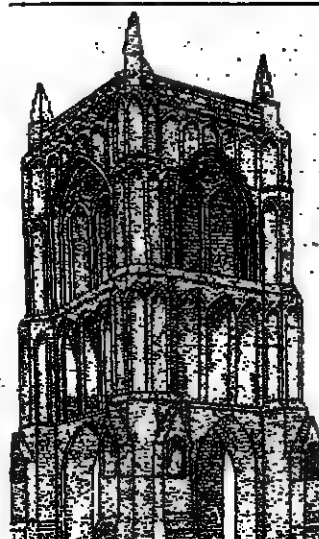


Taking note: Bridget Cherry at St Mary's, Lambeth

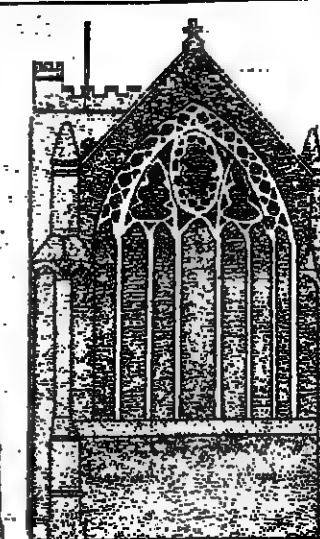
coverage of North London. The work of revising the *Buildings of England* is like painting the Forth Bridge. By the time the series was completed, the earlier volumes were badly out of date. The process involves a lot of church-crawling, researching in scholarly publications, and sending detailed questionnaires to incumbents; but the editors also make good use of the enormous quantities of correspondence that come in from experts and from amateurs who have made themselves into experts.

For those just beginning to take an interest in churches, Bridget Cherry has two suggestions. One is to try "pursuing an interest in one particular period or style or a particular feature such as monuments or glass". The other is to take one church and study it in its setting, to use the building and its monuments to read the social history of its parish. "This should help to bring these stones alive - just as the *Buildings of England* have been doing since 1951.

PICK OF A RICH HERITAGE

An illustrated guide to ten churches
and their outstanding features

West Waltham, Norfolk (St Mary): The full glory of the 13th-century Early English style with an unusual bell-tower standing apart



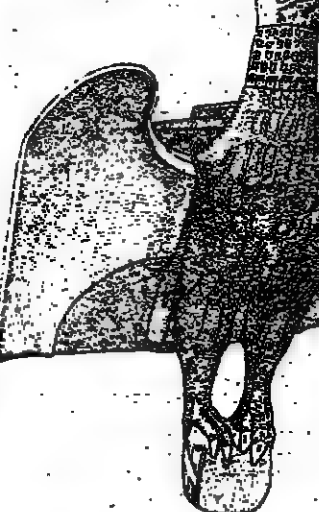
Mildenhall, Suffolk (St Mary & St Andrew): One of the great Suffolk churches, rebuilt in the 15th century, but the splendid East window is earlier



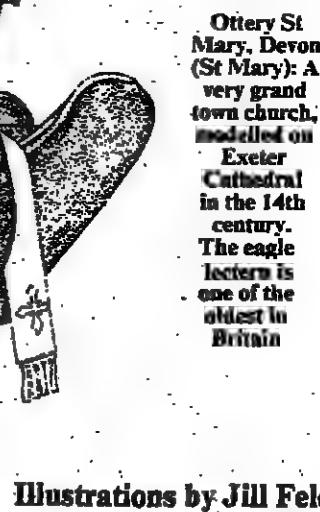
Fairford, Glos. (St Mary the Virgin): Superb, but not overwhelming, wool church of the late 15th century. The stained glass is the best and most complete of its period in England



Bosham, Lincolnshire (St Botolph): A superb example of 14th-century architecture. The highest tower in England, the "Boston Stump"



Pattingham, Yorkshire (St Patrick): The "Queen of Holderness", its tower and spire a landmark for miles around



Ottery St Mary, Devon (St Mary): A very grand town church, modelled on Exeter Cathedral in the 14th century. The eagle lectern is one of the oldest in Britain

Illustrations by Jill Feld

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GOOD GUIDES

With church-crawling it is best to plan ahead with suitable maps and book. For serious church-crawling on foot you will need the Ordnance Survey 1:25 000 Pathfinder series, and the following books:

The *Buildings of England* (Penguin) edited by the late Sir Nikolaus Pevsner, and now by Bridget Cherry. Unique in describing every noteworthy building in England, county by county.

Collins' Guide to English Parish Churches edited by the late Sir John Betjeman (£5.95). A selective list, arranged by counties.

Nicholson's Guide to English Churches Essentially a tourist guide, covering some 850 churches, with touring maps, car parking information (£5.95).

The *Beauty of English Churches* by Lawrence E. Jones, (Constable £5.95). Usefully arranged by feature, rather than place or date.

English Parish Churches Photographs by Edwin Smith, text by Graham Hutton and Olive Cook (Thames & Hudson £3.95). Good solid history.

English Parish Churches as Works of Art by Alec Clifton-Taylor, (Batsford £3.95). Authoritative, entertaining and opinionated survey, copiously illustrated.

SATURDAY

A painter's eye:
Patrick Heron
interview, page 18

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Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

TRAVEL



Face of change: anoraks and alcohol now mix with reindeer skins and horns as the 20th century and tourism gradually encroach on Swedish Lapland

The last wilderness of Arctic Europe

Leslie Gardiner explores northern Sweden in search of the traditionally nomadic Lapps, but finds their way of life is disappearing fast

First sighting of a Laplander: a young girl on the bank of an estuary. I shout: "Don't stay there, the tide's coming in". In near-perfect English she answers: "But first I catch my fish". An hour later we met at the hotel where she works as a part-time receptionist and she showed me her string of char, about 1lb apiece. She had to wade ashore, she said, up to her hips in a swirling flood, and to get dry she ran all the way back with the fish round her neck.

"She showed me photographs of herself on the Swedish Lapp trails, on her back her 'kitchen' as she calls it, at her waist a hunting knife. Up there she lives off the country, visits relatives and reverts to type. One picture shows Lena fording a stream with reindeer. 'You must gently coax the leader, the rest follow. They are buoyant, they float like corks'."

In another shot she is hardly visible in a muddle of antlers. When they corral and segregate the bucks for slaughter, some brave person has to plunge in among the frightened animals and pick out the victims. Lena always volunteers for that job.

With the reindeer-herding Lapps she has crossed frontiers: Norway, Sweden, Finland and the Soviet Union. This is permitted to the nomads as long as they keep on the move. Her home is Gällivare, an old Lappish market town. By rail from Stockholm it takes 13 hours (three trains a day, £38 single). Lena makes the trip in 10 hours, in an old MG.

These regions of Arctic Sweden, around Gällivare, Jukkasjärvi and Kiruna, are billed as Europe's last wilderness. Powerful destructive forces surge through timber bridges, the silence of the pine forests is oppressive, distances between towns are great, the snow-water lakes - unruined and unvisited since time began - mirror in spring the passage of snow-bunnies, caribou and geese in great numbers.

Then, 200 miles from the sea, you hear a ship's siren. A big passenger vessel crosses the lake. At the far end you come to a port, a hido and the first of a chain of hydro-electric stations. We flew from Stockholm to Kiruna on the cheap flight, £42 for a round trip of 1,200 miles. It is one of the world's greatest cities - in area. And it has one of the world's biggest mines, producing iron ore. In summer, the local tourist association runs subterranean coach tours through the mine, which has not only a road system but also rail networks, repair shops, cafes and restaurants for workers and tourists.

Lapp girls herd reindeer and drive fast cars

Within Kiruna "town" - 20 miles from the main population centre - we saw the transmitter, radio-telescopes and parabolic antennae of the Scandinavian space project, a geophysical research institute, a rocket-launching site, a satellite-tracking station and a glaciological survey centre.

This is the fascination of Swedish Lapland: wild landscapes supporting advanced technology, the latest in scientific development cheek by jowl with a primeval lifestyle. So

wonder young Lapp girls are equally at home herding reindeer and driving fast cars.

Kiruna lies north of the Arctic Circle. From surrounding hills you can see the midnight sun from May 28 to July 14, mosquitoes permitting. (We watched some go-kart racing. The karts threw up clouds of grit which, when they drifted our way, turned out to be mosquitoes.) Here you are on the Nordkalottroad or Norvegavägen ("Norway Route"), a brand-new highway tracing 50 miles of the Tornetrask lake and leaping across the backbone of Scandinavia, over frothing waterways and the moss-grown tundras which reindeer love, to the fjords of northern Norway.

Landmarks off the route at present are old navy camps and cemeteries, relics of those who toiled and perished on the iron-ore railways to Narvik. This is Lapland, but we did not see Lapps (not real Lapps on reindeer sledges, moving up from winter to summer pastures. We saw three young men careering down a slope on snow-scooters - our guide said they were Lapps. We saw a helicopter herding reindeer, and passed a convoy of ex-Army trucks - Lapp families on the move. We glimpsed what was once a Lapp settlement and is now a tourist village. The Swedes are taking over

Lapland. Avid for winter sports, long-distance hiking and nude bathing in mineral pools, Swedes enthusiastically embrace the last wilderness. Adventurous people - like Lena - strap the "kitchen" on their backs and head north from Kiruna, 100 miles on difficult trails to Palsasaguan, Kummavuopio and Keinovuopio on the three-nations frontier where Norway, Sweden and Finland meet.

Maybe in these ancestral homelands they come across the odd Lapp, almost wholly

Pristine in beauty and tranquillity

dependent on reindeer for food, shelter, clothing and domestic needs, sustaining a pure and unbroken tradition, leading as Linnaeus the botanist reported "the easiest and happiest of lives".

Of some 50,000 Lapps in the world, only about 800 do that. They have become an anachronism, faded like the Ainu of Japan, whose customs and folklore they share to be "kept intact only for tourists' purposes".

Around Gällivare there are said to be a few Lapps stock-breeding and managing the reindeer; we didn't find any.

Gällivare is another mining town, railway junction and stopover for tourists, with a famous "Penny Church" built 200 years ago for the newly-Christianized Lapps with donations of one penny from every Swedish household.

Southward, on the main railway to Stockholm, south of the Arctic Circle, you hit the forest region and lakeland of Arvidsjaur, bristling with camp sites, caravan parks and boating marinas. Some Arvidsjaur buildings, including Lapp sheds and pyramidal huts, date from 1820. This was a place of pilgrimage for Lapps. In June and July they still round up and mark the reindeer and on the last Sunday in August they hold their annual party. They don't, however, hold their liquor. Two points of lager puts a Lapp in the gutter.

Late August and early September are the recommended visiting seasons, when the forests are most colourful and the midges, gnats and horseflies (the true denizens of the north, in point of numbers) begin to get their heads down.

A first time visitor might settle for Jukkasjärvi, which is rather more than a large village, lying on the Arctic Circle, in a quiet watered mountainland halfway between Gällivare and Arvidsjaur. It looks out on yet another of the riverine island seas of northern Sweden, pristine in beauty and tranquillity. Its hotels are almost surrealistically new. You can rent cabins, tents and chalets along a 70-mile-long lake shore.

The municipal museum was recently enriched with the best of all Lapp collections - sheds, huts, skin tents furnished with the paraphernalia of the nomads from reindeer cloaks and rugs to reindeer-horn carvings, ornaments and utensils. Hardly surprising that the Lapp language (which is cousin to Finnish and Magyar) defines "reindeer" with more than 200 nouns.



TRAVEL NOTES

DFDS ferries from Harwich and Newcastle to Gothenburg take 24 hours and the cost is about £44 single, £22 for the car. Distances are tremendous but petrol at £1.75 per gallon is relatively cheap. Carry a spare car - it's a long way between refills.

The cheapest travel is by air, with a flat-rate "mini-fares" for families at £21 per adult head, regardless of distance.

Special "room only" rates at guest-houses and hotels, exclusive to tourists, vary between £9.50 and £13.50 per night. All hotel accommodation is costly, but there are "hotel cheque" schemes available. The "quality cheque" (bed, bath and breakfast) costs £17.50, the "budget cheque" (bed and breakfast) £12.50.

Among British tour operators are Marlborough Adventure of Thorpe Wood, Peterborough PE3 6SB (0733 502235); Ramblers of Freethorne Road, Welwyn Garden City AL8 8PQ (0707 331133); Twickenham Travel of Twickenham TW1 3NW (01-898 8221); Watling Travel of Edgware HA8 0LD (01-951 0755); SAS Air Travel of Conduit Street, London W1R 0AY (01-437 9821); and Scantours of Spring Gardens, London SW1A 2BG (01-839 2927). Scantours and Watling operate the Swedish "hotel cheque" scheme.

Spain investigates charter bookings

TRAVEL NEWS

The Spanish Government has started a clamp-down on charter flights carrying "seat only" passengers who have arranged their own holiday accommodation. It claims a breach of internationally-agreed regulations which lay down that accommodation must be included in the price of a charter package.

Investigators have recently been carrying out spot checks at Spanish airports and in some cases where returning holiday-makers have been unable to produce their accommodation vouchers, the airline or tour operator has been fined up to 10,000 pesetas (about £45) per infringement.

European tour operators say they might accept a quota of 25 per cent "seat only" passengers on flights to Spain but the Spanish authorities are adamant that a complete ban will be enforced from the start of the winter season in November. British tour operators maintain that they are sticking to the legal requirements by offering either extremely basic dormitory accommodation or a "property letting agreement" under which the holidaymaker pays a nominal £1 for use of a villa or apartment.

Flight fears lifted

Fears that holiday charter flights might be forced to switch from Gatwick to Stansted under the Government's new airport policy have been allayed by the Civil Aviation Authority. The CAA points out that 8.2 million international charter passengers passed through Gatwick last year and says it is unrealistic to believe that this demand "can be channelled neatly to another airport simply in order to make a convenient arrangement for scheduled carriers and airport owners".

Winter blanket

A guarantee against holiday surcharges caused by currency fluctuations has been given by Thomas Cook Holidays for its 1985-86 winter-sun and winter-sports programmes. But the company reserves the right to pass on in full any cost increase caused by changes in the price of oil.

Tjaereborg, the Danish-owned operator, which sells direct to the public, has given a blanket no-surcharge guarantee on its winter holiday programme for bookings made before August 31.

Another direct-sell operator, Portland Holidays, owned by the Thomson Travel group, has come out with a winter-sun

programme at "Early Bird" prices, valid only until August 31, starting at £92 for seven nights' half-board.

Bermuda bound

Royal Caribbean Cruise Line is operating a one-off 11 day flycruise to New York and Bermuda in September, with the return flight to London being made on Concorde. Passengers fly to New York on a British Airways subsonic flight to join RCCL's Nordic Prince for its cruise to Bermuda, where it is berthed for three days. The starting price for the cruise, including the trans-Atlantic flights, is £1,525.

Wonderful!

A special centre is being provided free of charge at Copenhagen's main railway station this summer for young travellers using the Inter-Rail or Eurail youth passes. The centre's facilities include a common room, dining room, toilets and washing facilities, and snacks are on sale. It is open from 7am till 1am daily until September 15.

Far north-Far East

Holidays in the Far East with direct flights from the north of England will be available from November with British Airways' launch of a twice-weekly scheduled service from Manchester to Hong Kong via Munich, Dubai and Bangkok. Speedbird Holidays will be one of the operators using the new service and its programme will include two-centre holidays linking Thailand and Hong Kong.

Mini cruises

Three-day mini-cruises from Harwich to Esbjerg, Gothenburg or Hamburg geared towards people organizing a special celebration are being operated by DFDS Seaways from September. The cruise prices include the return crossing and a few hours ashore for shopping and sightseeing, as well as a three-course celebration dinner with wine and liquors. Basic prices start at £60 per person, but reductions are available for large groups.

Florida shuttle

Poundstretcher, one of British Airways' tour-operating subsidiaries, is offering all Edinburgh, Glasgow and Manchester passengers booking a holiday from its Florida Without Cash programme a free domestic flight to connect with their scheduled BA flight from Heathrow.

Philip Ray

How to stay healthy on your summer break

Holidays are one of the 30 most stressful events in life, and half the people who spend them abroad fall ill. Isabel Walker suggests how to minimize the risks

According to psychologist John Nicholson, holidays are potentially stressful precisely because they represent such a departure from the norm. He recommends you minimize the strain of your big summer break by building up to it with a succession of mini-holidays (long weekends and odd days off) so blurring the contrast between work and leisure.

If you work like crazy until the last minute and arrive on holiday in a state of nervous exhaustion, you will have less fun and be more prone to illness. If possible organize packing and shopping well in advance and stop work two or three days before leaving so that you arrive on holiday relaxed.

Once on holiday, prepare

yourself to tolerate uncertainty and departure from routine. Enjoy rather than resent the fact that the natives do things differently. Make a conscious effort to break your normal time schedule and become receptive to new rhythms.

Health precautions

If you are travelling outside northern Europe, North America, Australia and New Zealand or to areas where sanitation is primitive, you may need vaccination against cholera, typhoid, polio, yellow fever, tetanus or infectious hepatitis. The latest recommendations are set out in the Department of Health leaflet SA35, *Prevent Your Health Abroad*, available from travel agents and social security offices (make sure you get an up-to-date copy). It is best to organize vaccinations well in advance since some take weeks to be fully effective. But a last-minute visit to your doctor or one of the medical centres at Heathrow or Gatwick is better than nothing. Check that your children are up to date with their routine jabs.

Malaria is widespread in tropical and sub-tropical areas and has enjoyed a resurgence, particularly in the Indian subcontinent, parts of South America and Turkey, as the malaria parasite has become resistant to the available drugs. Travellers to malarious areas need to take prophylactic tablets before, during and after their holiday. But even with the tablets, it is vital to avoid mosquito bites by covering up in the evenings. Travel to malarious areas is not recommended for pregnant women or babies under three months.

To deal with minor illness and accidents the following are recommended in the British Medical Association family doctor booklet *Health on Holiday*: soluble aspirin or paracetamol (with equivalents for children); an anti-diarrhoea mixture such as kaolin and morphine; a senna preparation or similar for constipation; magnesium trisilicate mixture



(BPC) for indigestion; an insect repellent stick, gel or spray, preferably containing diethyltoluamide; antiseptic cream or spray for stings and bites; travel sickness pills, preferably containing hyoscine; water sterilizing tablets (if necessary) containing halozon; a cream containing benzocaine or lignocaine for itchy skin; calamine for sunburn.

Facing the sun

It is recognized that sunlight has a tonic effect and also enhances libido. But much misery, including sunburn, headaches, dehydration, fainting and, in extreme cases, heat exhaustion, is caused by over-enthusiastic exposure to a hotter-than-usual sun. Too much unprotected exposure can also lead to premature ageing of the skin and even skin cancer which can be fatal.

The best advice is to avoid long periods in the sun, but if you are determined to sunbathe take the following precautions. Prepare yourself by sunbathing beforehand, or by using an ultra violet lamp or a cream which stimulates the production of protective melanin.

For the unprepared, the golden rule of safe tanning is no more than half an hour's exposure on the first day, roughly doubled for each consecutive day. Until you have acclimatized to the heat, which can take two weeks, you will sweat more than usual and so need to take extra fluids (not in the form of tea, coffee and alcohol) and add extra salt to meals. Fluid and salt replacement is particularly important if you are also exercising strenuously.

Sun barrier creams and

lotions are essential for safe tanning. Choose a product which screens out UVA as well as UVB rays, and buy a water-resistant formulation if you're keen on water sports. If you are allergy-prone, opt for a hypo-allergenic range such as Roc. Sun protection factors, which dictate the time you can safely remain in the sun, range from two to 15. Opt for medium-to-high protection (depending on skin tone) in the early days, switching to low protection when you're acclimatized. Use a total sunblock on sensitive areas like lips and eyelids or burned parts you want to protect. Prolong your tan and counteract the sun's dehydrating effects - which can persist for weeks after exposure - with a rich after-sun moisturiser.

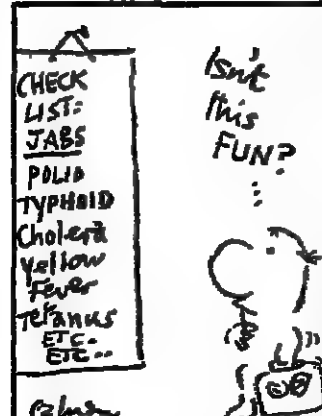
The elderly, the very young, the overweight and people with heart and skin complaints are particularly susceptible to heat disorders, including prickly heat. They need to keep as cool as possible, replace fluids regularly and wear light, loose cotton clothes to encourage sweat evaporation.



Food and drink

Eat unfamiliar delicacies in moderation for the first few days. Holiday diarrhoea can be caused by over-indulgence, aggravated by alcohol and too much sun, or by eating infected food.

For optimum safety in hot countries drink only pasteurized or sterilized milk and eat only wrapped and labelled butter and cheese. Peel all fruit and avoid salads and uncooked vegetables in areas where the water supply is suspect. Eat all vegetables, meat, poultry and fish - especially shellfish - well-cooked and served hot, and



avoid cold meat and buffets. Bewary of food, drink and ice cream sold by street vendors.

According to the BMA booklet, drinking water is safe in reasonable-sized towns in the United States and Canada, Scandinavia, Belgium, Germany, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Switzerland, northern France, Italy, mainland Greece, Australia and New Zealand. In rural areas of these countries and in other parts of the world, the water may contain micro-organisms which can cause illness. If in doubt, it is best to drink only bottled water - ensuring that the seal is broken in your presence - or to sterilize tap water by boiling or adding tablets.

Babies pick up gastro-intestinal infections more readily than adults and it may be wise to delay weaning until you return from holiday. If a baby under 12 months gets an attack of diarrhoea, call a doctor.

General tips

● Don't do too much in the first few days - give yourself time to get acclimatized.

● Save excursions for the early morning and late afternoon in hot countries. You are most likely to burn when you are not consciously sunning.

● Leave tight-fitting shoes at home. In a hot climate your feet may be permanently swollen.

● Tune into your natural body clock. Sleep, get up and eat when you feel like it.

● Start discussing positive aspects of returning a day or two before the end of the holiday and increase your activity level to lessen the shock of returning to normality.

Joy-Rides

The only travel sickness tablets specially for children. Chewy, fruit flavoured and at your chemist.

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Enterosan

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BRIDGE

Underdogs sow the seeds of discontent

The seeding by the British Bridge League was the main topic of conversation when the eight teams assembled at the Queen's Hotel in Leeds last month to contest the final stages of the Gold Cup. Criticism was widespread, and by far the most positive adjective employed to describe the selectors' efforts was "controversial". Certainly the draw looked uneven.

Three of the four seeds were defeated, and the other (Dixon) scraped home after being 11 points behind with eight boards to play. The main shock was Price's loss to Blackburn.

The semi-finals matched Blackburn against Ruia (the winners of the 1984 Sobranie Challenge), and Dixon against Breskal. The first of these matches was a ding-dong battle until Ruia established his supremacy by running out a comfortable winner by 44 IMPs.

The Dixon-Breskal match produced the best bridge of the weekend. The match between these two old rivals was expected to be close, but Breskal was unable to recover an initial deficit, finally losing by 27 IMPs.

The universal opinion was that Dixon, with five seasoned internationals at his disposal, would carry too many guns for Ruia's talented but inexperienced Manchester team. When Dixon assumed an effortless lead of 34 IMPs after only 16 boards, the pundits nodded gravely. A loss of 8 IMPs on the next set was dismissed as a hiccup. But then came this dramatic board.

(1) The multi-coloured two diamonds, showing either a weak two bid in a major or a variety of strong hands. Rose was a little under strength by orthodox standards.

(2) A relay to discover more about West's hand.

Although six spades doubled cost 900, it was superficially a good result, as North-South can make seven diamonds.

This was the bidding in the Open room:

| | | | |
|-------|-------|------|-------------|
| W | N | E | S |
| Whyte | Dixon | Ball | Silverstone |
| 2♣ | 3NT | 4♠ | 5♠ |
| No | No | 6♠ | 7♠ |
| No | No | 7♠ | Double |
| No | No | 7NT | No |
| No | No | No | No |

There were 13 easy tricks available in diamonds. Seven no trumps was a different matter. The ♠Q looks an automatic lead, but Ball selected a spade. Had he led a low spade, he would eventually have succumbed to a squeeze in the black suits. As it was, he chose the ♠Q, to earn a swing of 14 IMPs. The comfortable lead had shrunk to 8 IMPs.

After 40 boards the scores were level. Then Dixon edged ahead by 9 IMPs. Spectators in the Open room were convinced that Dixon and Silverstone had put the issue beyond doubt in the penultimate eighth board, but uncharacteristically Sheehan had made some unfortunate decisions in the closed room. With eight boards to play Dixon led by 1 IMP, but he heard 6♠ Ruia led by five only to lose 11 IMPs on the very last board.

A terrific fight by the losers, who nearly produced the greatest upset since Cassius Clay hammered Sonny Liston to defeat some 20 years ago. Remarkably, this was Rose's first success in the Gold Cup. Unquestionably he was the best player never to have won the trophy. "Reminds me of Sir Gordon Richards winning the Derby on Pinza," one was remarked.

The teams were: C. Dixon (Captain), V. Silverstone, R. Sheehan, I. Rose, J. Flint, G. S. Ruia (Captain), B. S. Ruia, S. Ball, D. Whyte, A. Ruia, A. Mould.

Jeremy Flint

CHESS

Present miniatures and past masters

The things that happen to one in boyhood largely condition one's mind in later life. I well remember how entranced I was with Alekhine's wonderful book *My Hundred Best Games* when I got it with a prize I had won in the British Boy's chess championship at Hastings some 58 years ago.

Alekhine's book was marvellous: illustrated by some brilliantly colourful chess, it gave the young player an immediate and enlightening insight into grandmaster play.

In contrast how disappointed and dismayed I was with Batsford's *Miniatures from the World Champions* by Anatoly Karpov. £5.95. It turns out to be written by one Eugene Gik and rewritten to a certain extent by the world champion.

This is hardly a happy year for Karpov. First of all there came the fiasco of his match with Kasparov. Now he has produced this limp book that is really unworthy of a world champion. The translator, Dr Neut, has made an excellent job. It's only that Karpov, to use his own words in the foreword has got Gik to "provide him with interesting bits of material for this publication".

Having said this, let me just quote one marvellous game that makes the whole book worthwhile. It is from the US Championship 1964.

R. Byrne White, Fischer Black. Q. P. Grundel Defence

Harry Golombek

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 689)

Prizes of the New Collins Thesaurus will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday, July 11, 1985. Entries should be addressed to The Times Concise Crossword Competition, 12 Coley Street, London WC6E 8JY. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, July 13, 1985.

ACROSS

- Italian clown (11)
- Release (7)
- Belittling behaviour (5)
- Serve (3)
- Quote (4)
- Competent (4)
- Pod (6)
- Blend (4)
- Quick look (4)
- Hate (6)
- Blend (4)
- Country road (4)
- Prepare (3)
- Exercise (5)
- One more (7)
- Without facial hair (5)

DOWN

- Not illuminated (5)
- Quite cold (4)
- Conception (4)
- Test (4)
- Redeable (7)
- Mercury (11)
- Reign of Terror leader (11)
- Prisoner (6)
- Moose (3)
- Disregard (6)
- Hide (7)
- Household animal (3)
- Yellow-orange (5)
- Covered walk (4)
- Lights out call (4)
- Join (4)

SOLUTION TO No 688

ACROSS: 1 Punish 2 Become 3 Eve 4 Gerbil 5 Solemn 6 Iva 7 Commerce 8 Credit 9 Embury 10 Tilt 11 Tilt 12 Fiasco 13 Avoiced 14 Nun 15 Denote 16 Trauma 17 Down 18 Uteri 19 Inboard 20 Helicat 21 Besom 22 Calve 23 Mimicry 24 Mum 25 Routine 26 Ire 27 Enchant 28 Bazooka 29 Drove 31 Stone 32 Odium

The winners of prize concise No 688 are: John W. Mackenzie, 1 Milford, East Kilbride, and Mrs J. C. Howell, 3 All Hallows Close, Ordsall, Reiford, Notts.

SOLUTION TO No 683 (Last Saturday's prize concise)

ACROSS: 1 Clairvoyant 9 Rawhide 10 Rigger 11 Wad 13 Vert 16 Lima 17 Orally 18 Dean 20 Fete 21 Beagle 22 Upon 23 Epha 25 Pus 26 Tria 29 Piccolo 30 Declaration

DOWN: 2 Lower 3 Iris 4 View 5 Yard 6 Neglige 7 Grave 8 Doubts 8 Cattle 10 Hove 12 Alleg 14 Ton 15 Gateau 19 Agonise 20 Fec 24 Photo 25 Peel 26 Spasm 27 Scut

ACROSS: 1 Italian clown (11) 2 Release (7) 3 Belittling behaviour (5) 4 Serve (3) 5 Quote (4) 6 Competent (4) 7 Pod (6) 8 Blend (4) 9 Quick look (4) 10 Hate (6) 11 Blend (4) 12 Country road (4) 13 Prepare (3) 14 Exercise (5) 15 One more (7) 16 Without facial hair (5)

DOWN: 1 Not illuminated (5) 2 Quite cold (4) 3 Conception (4) 4 Test (4) 5 Redeable (7) 6 Mercury (11) 7 Reign of Terror leader (11) 8 Prisoner (6) 9 Moose (3) 10 Disregard (6) 11 Hide (7) 12 Household animal (3) 13 Yellow-orange (5) 14 Covered walk (4) 15 Lights out call (4) 16 Join (4)

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IN THE GARDEN



A far pavilion: the long gentle arc of the orangery at Sezincote, whose Indian splendours inspired the Prince Regent

Metamorphosis of the stately garden

The English landscape style of gardening during the 18th century was both audacious and arrogant and demanded from its practitioners an intellectual awareness of, and belief in, a previous golden age when man had achieved perfectibility.

Gardens were adorned with temples and ornaments modelled on ancient examples and, embellished by art and artifice, were composed of views and scenes in palatial, picturesque terms.

Towards the close of the century many writers advocated a more picturesque style with a natural rugged grandeur that went far beyond anything seen previously. One such writer was the Rev William Gilpin, who was influenced in his views by the romantic scenery he encountered in the Lake District. Gilpin's aims, in his *Essays on the Picturesque*, written in 1772, were to examine "the landscape by the rules of picturesque beauty and to express the detail in terms as appropriate and yet as vivid as possible". For Gilpin, rocks, mountains and the great English Oak were the stuff of the picturesque.

It was scenery to stir the emotions, and romantic, with "groups of cattle in various parts and fishing boats extending their nets in dotted circles". Yet it was not always necessarily calm. The ideal scene could be tempestuous and stormy, "mountains half obscured by drifting vapours and trees straining in the blast".

Ruined castles and abbeys were very much part of the picturesque canon. Their decay, according to Gilpin, added to their beauty.

But, purist as ever, he insisted that if such ruins were to be incorporated into the picturesque scene, they must be Gothic. Saxon ruins were altogether too coarse and heavy.

As the century closed, the picturesque style, wedded to the English landscape style gave rise to some curious concoctions, the most bizarre of which must be Sezincote in Gloucestershire.

Sezincote was built by Charles Cockerell in 1804 and topped by a turquoise onion dome to remind him of India where he had made a fortune in the East India Company.

In spite of Sezincote's strange incongruity, the house, set against a backdrop of trees, is a charming creation and possesses one of the most inspired orangeries, which reaches out from the corner of the house in a long, gentle arc, terminating in a Gothic-sized Indian pavilion.

There is a water garden, planted with campanula, and a steep-sided dell where water falls from a curious temple pool to further pools fringed with yellow St John's wort and tall spiky *Primula floridula*.

So smitten was the Prince Regent when he visited Sezincote in 1807 that he was determined to have the same and immediately put in hand plans to transform Brighton Pavilion.

The influence of the picturesque gradually declined as the century ended. But its ideas were never totally abandoned. As late as 1835, its apogee was achieved at Scotney Castle in Kent, where Edward Hussey partially dismantled the 17th century Manor House attached to an earlier medieval castle, to create a romantic ruin as one could imagine.

Michael Young

Sezincote Garden, Moriston-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire. Open all year: Thurs, Fri 2-6pm. Scotney Castle Garden, Lambhurst, Kent (0892 890 651). Open Apr-Oct. Wed-Fri 11am-6pm, Sat-Sun 2-6pm.

A cut above the others

There is much debate over the respective merits of rotary and cylinder mowers. Professionally, I consider they both have a place in the garden, depending on the use to which you wish to put them. Both types can be used to cut normal lawns regularly, week after week and at the end of the season the differences will be slight.

Cylinder machines have a better cutting action, and make a better job of graining the grass - leaving stripes on the lawn. They are not dangerous so long as you keep hands, feet and cables away from the moving cylinder. Most collect grass.

Those which box-off cuttings are best if you are able to mow regularly: they make an excellent job, the clean cutting action of the cylinder turning against the bottom blade. Some are electric others are fuel driven. In small gardens where the machine is used up to two hours a week, a machine with an engine (electric or otherwise) which will work for 150 hours will last for more than three years. At £50 per machine this is just over £15 per year.

The best machines of this type are the Concorde E30, at about £50, and the Concorde RE35, which is compact and costs around £75. Both are electric.

Petrol machines include the Suffolk Punch 35 DL. It is robust and will give 10 years or more of hard work for about £189, but shop around to get the best price you can. All the above are manufactured by Quiclast.

The rotary machines - known, after the various advertising campaigns, as "hoovers" - can tackle older, longer grass, and are more effective on slopes than the cylinder types. They are ideal for grass through which bulbs have been growing.

Although a survey last year reported that 92 per cent of serious mowing injuries involved rotary mowers, they are not dangerous so long as cables, hands and feet are kept away from the blades. Several models are now available with plastic instead of metal blades, which reduces the risks further.

Flymo is the leader in this field and markets a number of machines which are good value. The E25 Minimo is listed at £55 but is available for about £40. With a 10in-wide cut it is useful for small lawns. The E30 has a 12in cut and is listed at £78 but again can be had for much less. At £369, in the Contractor range, the GT2 has a 30in cut but will cut five days a week, six hours a day, for at least a full season and often more.

In my opinion the best Flymo is the XE30 which costs around £100. It has a 12in cut and collects cuttings. It is possible to carry out grooming with the grass-collecting facility, but with only a 12in-cut the garden should not be too big.

Ashley Stephenson

Super grass secrets

Weedkilling comes next, but should only be undertaken when grass and weeds are growing vigorously. It is no use applying a selective weedkiller when the ground is dry and growth is depressed. Wait until about four days after the last cut and then apply the weedkiller evenly. Wait another four days before you cut the grass again. A heavy shower of rain directly after the weedkiller has been applied will probably mean the application must be repeated. It is important for the leaves of the weeds to be doused with weedkiller.

Weedkilling with 240 or MCPA as the active ingredient are suitable for the great majority of lawns. Some weeds, such as clover, may need a different chemical. Eeding is a small but slow job, and one which makes a tremendous difference to the way the lawn looks. A pair of good edging shears perform the task well. Rake the grass up afterwards. Black and Becker have introduced an electric lawn edger which is effective so long as you have good, sharp edges, which are deep and without tight curves.

Bulbs are a bit of a nuisance in grassed areas. Cut them back now.

OUTINGS

BRITISH ROSE FESTIVAL 85: Annual event organized by the Royal National Rose Society. Displays, competitions, music, dancing and refreshments on the lawns. Refreshments available.

The Gardens of the Rose, Chiswell Green Lane, St Albans, Herts (0727 50461). Today 10am-5pm. Admission today £2.75. Tomorrow £2.50. Accompanied children free.

REAL ALE FESTIVAL: Wide selection of real ales plus thigh-slapping German band, drinking songs, singing and shire horses. Devonshire Centre, Dunsford, Yealmpton, near Plymouth, Devon (0782 880268). Today, tomorrow, 10am-6pm. Adult £2, child £1.25.

A CELEBRATION OF FLOWERS: Historical arrangements of flowers at Osterley House organized by the V & A and supported by the Banks, Bucks and Oxon Flower Arrangers' Association. Private grounds, Osterley Park, Isleworth, Middlesex (01-560 5919). Today, tomorrow £2. National Trust members today £1, tomorrow 50p.

TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC: More than 50 bears from the collection of the actor Peter Bull, plus Paddington, and Harry Heathcote, Fiddlers' Dramas, The London Toy & Model Museum, Craven Hill, Paddington (01 262 7905). Tomorrow 2pm-5pm. Adult £1.80 - less 50p if carrying a bear, child 60p or less if with own bear. Selected by Judy Froshaug

AUCTIONS

DUSKY PORTRAITS: Silhouettes portraits were the rage in the late and early 19th centuries and are a cheap but fascinating collecting field. Sotheby's have the Kliner collection for sale and their estimates range from £20 to £400. Sotheby's, 34-35 New Bond Street, London W1 (01-493-8080). Viewing Mon 9.30am to 4.30pm. Sale Tues 10.30am.

FANS: Sales at both Sotheby's and Christie's on Tuesday have plenty of cheap lots for collectors, as well as a few masterpieces. Sotheby's, 34-35 New Bond Street, London W1 (01-493-8080). Viewing Mon 9.30am to 4.30pm. Sale Tues 10.30am. Christie's, 85 Old Bond Street, London W1 (01-581-7611). Viewing Mon 9am to 7pm and Tues 9am to 11.30am. Sale Tues 2pm.

SPENCER TREASURES: Earl Spencer has sent a portrait of two of the Dukes of Marlborough's 'Dogs'. The same sale has an early 18th century screen painted with racehorses. Sotheby's, 34-35 New Bond Street, London W1 (01-493-8080). Viewing Mon and Tues 9am to 4.30pm. Sale Wed 11am. Selected by Geraldine Norman

OXFORD & CAMBRIDGE Universities. The United Oxford and Cambridge University Club invites enquiries from gentlemen of either University about membership.

The Club offers restaurant and quick lunch facilities, an excellent canteen, a venue for private parties and meetings, reasonably priced bedrooms, accommodation, squash courts, and reciprocal arrangements with many Clubs at home and abroad. There is a well appointed ladies' wing. There is no entry fee.

Please contact the Membership Secretary at 71 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5BH. Telephone: 01-230 5151

SOUTH WEST Peninsula Path Distance: 13 miles

The common misconception is that Penzance and Land's End are one and the same thing. In fact there are 13 miles of splendid coastal walking between the two points, through the labyrinthine streets of Newlyn, up to Mousehole and down to the remote cove at the foot of Lamorna Valley. Before rounding the corner onto the big toe of south west England, there is an excellent view back towards the implausible promontory of St Michael's Mount which, with its castle summit, looks like a fugitive from the Rhineland. Suddenly the landscape turns rugged, wild and empty, the last granite gesture of an island running out of land - and of people. Climbing westwards from Porth Curno's sandy beach you eventually come to the famous Miram Theatre, a natural auditorium of stone, with carved-out seats bearing the names of successive productions. Even in the loftiest reaches of his imagination, Shakespeare could not have conceived a better location for *King Lear* than this. On again to Greenan Head.

Alan Franks

EATING OUT

Square meals and the perfect refuge

Summer in the town centre can be a harrowing experience, and in the City of London even more so. Happily, the bankers, stockbrokers and lawyers can escape from their glass and concrete hot-houses into two attractive squares which, by chance, have quiet pretty restaurants at their heart. Both premises overlook bowling greens, and the lunchtime competitions which fill them make a peaceful backdrop to eating and drinking.

The Pavilion, on the south side of Finsbury Circus Gardens, is a smart, two-tier operation. Informal but polished wine-bar on the upper level, and sophisticated restaurant in the cool but windowless basement. The wine-bar has panoramic views over the gardens, and a cushioned window seat here would be as pleasant a spot as you could wish to find within the Square Mile.

The wine-bar offers continental breakfasts to early risers between 7.45-9.30am, reopening at 11.30am for a well-prepared cold buffet, sandwiches or a hot dish such as paella. A young, enthusiastic team do all the cooking on the premises, and you should expect to find seafood pasta, home-baked pies and patés surrounding the hot dish of the day. Despite the cases of wine lying around, there's plenty of standing room. Arrive early to beat the crowds.

Downstairs, The Pavilion's restaurant is altogether a more serious affair, with attractive prints, cool green walls and starched white tablecloths. A short and choice menu changes every two weeks, and offers high quality, but essentially simple dishes.

First courses (included in the price of the main course) might include fresh asparagus with butter sauce, a deliciously thick scallop and artichoke soup, crevettes in garlic, or a savoury slice of goat's cheese with salad.

Fresh salmon is likely to feature among the main dishes, perhaps poached simply with a beurre blanc or, more inventively, baked en croûte with asparagus (£13.50, including the starters, vegetables and bread). They seem fond, too, of madeira sauce, using it with roast poussin (£11.95) or veal kidneys, and the menu richness continues with a tender supreme of chicken, accompanied by a tarragon and cream sauce (£12).

If you halt there after two courses, you can surface for less than £30 for two, though the quality of the cooking will almost certainly lure you on to some tempting puddings as apple tart or café moussé (both £2.30), taking the bill nearer £40. The attractions of a long, unusual and thoroughly annotated wine-list are likely to encourage further excess, especially as they helpfully propose wines from their list for each course.

If you haven't an expense account to support you, the plainer, cheaper style of the Café La Paquerette, in the centre of Finsbury Square's gardens, may prove more attractive, especially as tables here spill out on to a pleasant paved patio.

Breakfasts, both fried and continental, sandwiches and morning coffees, are dispensed from behind a bustling counter, but between noon and 3pm, bistro style lunches are served on the green-checked oil-cloths which cover the tables. Cold soups (beetroot, tomato and cucumber, £1.25) are ideal starters for a summer lunch, followed by poached salmon (£6.95 including vegetables), loin of pork with apples (£6.25) or perhaps a lightweight salad or home-made pasta. With a bottle of pleasant house wine, a warm breeze and the click of the bowls from the adjoining green, the countryside may not seem too far away.

Stan Hey

The Pavilion, Finsbury Circus Gardens, London EC2 (01-628 8224). Open: Mon-Fri 7.45am-9.30am, 11.30am-3pm and 5pm-8pm (wine bar); noon-2.30pm (restaurant). Café La Paquerette, Finsbury Square, London EC2 (01-638 5134). Open: Mon-Fri 7.30am-4pm

ANGLING

Patrolling the beat

Half an hour after arriving on the beat I had rented on the Test I knew why this Hampshire chalk stream is so highly valued. There below the overhang of the bank a fat brown hen trout slipped food from the slow passing current.

It was early in the season by Hampshire standards, warm but gusty. There was little life apart from black Hawthorn flies hovering above the water further up-stream.

In my pocket I carried an old tobacco tin filled with early season flies - the Iron Blue, Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear, Beacon Beige, Large Dark Olive, Lunn's Particular and the Houghton Ruby. As luck would have it a Hawthorn Fly imitation was already on the leader.

My first cast fell well upstream of the fish but too far out from the bank. The fly dribbled past the fish who remained oblivious. My second dropped closer to the bank and I lost sight of the fish in a swirl of water as it passed. It was skidding away, well hooked.

The trout weighed 3lb. Nor, it transpired, was it alone. Every so often there would be the rat-like rush of small trout fleeing as I passed along the banks. Large solid shapes hung in the water, moving away at a more leisurely, portly pace.

My beat consisted of two carriers, merging in a meadow, and running into the main Test close to the village of Wharwell. The best tactic was to spot the lie of a trout, cross the water and then try to approach from the other bank to cast across. For a second time that day the Hawthorn Fly worked its magic. The fish was 2 1/2lb.

Two good fish caught. But despite their size they were an expensive pleasure. The beat cost £46 for the day with a limit of four fish.

A season ticket will run to £2,000. I was lucky to get the day. The beats were otherwise booked solid into mid-summer. I enjoyed fishing in the footsteps of Walton, Durnford, Skeats, and other love-lorn suitors of the Test but still prefer a pretty corner of the limestone Coin, even if the fish are smaller.

Stewart Tendler

ON THE RIVER

The Rod Box in Winchester (Winchester 61591) handles a number of beats and has a special telephone number for lets on Winchester 713458. The beat I rented was part of the Wharwell Estate on Chilcotton 243. Other chalk stream fishing, often much cheaper and almost as good, can be found on the Itchen, the Hampshire/Winshire Avon, and a number of tributaries. The

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By Beryl Downing

SHOPPING



The lore of the jungle: Lizzie Webb and four of her animal characters who make exercise fun

Keep fit for beastly children

If anyone can make getting up at 6.30am and jumping around the living room seem like fun, TV-am's "Mad Lizzie" is the one to do it. Exercise routines with her are neither a chore nor a strain. They are simply child's play.

Which is exactly what Lizzie Webb's *Exercise Zoo* (£4.95) published this week, is all about. It is a Jungle Book of exercise - ten animals with distinctly human characteristics, each with a colourfully illustrated short story followed by a selection of exercises appropriate to each creature's movements.

It is the first book of exercise aimed specifically at children, partly because Lizzie has a large following of under-eights and partly because she believes firmly that group exercise can help to develop confidence and a healthy attitude to life.

"Children are in danger of leading very sedentary lives",

she says. "They come in and watch television when they have been sitting down during lessons most of the day. They have a lot of pent up energy and aggression. Exercise and dance movement can help to release those physical tensions."

Before becoming a television star, Lizzie was trained in drama and dance, and taught for 15 years. This included a spell in a Clapham comprehensive school, in 1970, long before Fame and Hot Gossip made dancing an acceptable idea for boys as well as girls.

Lizzie's students were auditioned for a group called Ruby Flipper, the replacement for Pan's People. They were the first boys to be included in a *Top of the Pops* dance group, and after that everybody wanted to get in on the act.

After her son Ben was born eight years ago, she concentrated on choreographing television commercials and teach-

ing at professional dance studios. Among her students was the personal assistant to the editor of TV-am. "Do you know anyone who makes exercise fun?" he asked his PA. "I go to this mad lady at The Dance Centre", she said - and Mrs Webb has been known as Mad Lizzie ever since.

"The response from children to the programme has been fantastic", she says. "Parents write to tell me that their three-year-olds won't go out before they have done their exercises."

The animal idea came from observing Ben's love of cartoons and the happy chance that Susan Pinkus, director of Pagoda Books, had noticed the lack of a special exercise book for children and suggested a collaboration.

"I thought children could identify with animals because they all have their favourites", Lizzie says. "I invented charac-

ters for them that children would recognize - Edna the Eagle knows it all and Frederika the Frog has facets of Ben, who puts his boots on the wrong feet."

"Lester the Lion has lost his pounce; Gemma the Giraffe is shy, hangs her head and looks at you from under her eyelashes (I got that from Princess Diana) and Perry the Penguin is the studious child who reads all day."

Susan Pinkus is organizing a competition for children of two age groups, under fives and six to eight-year-olds, in which they are asked to submit a drawing of an animal character for which they would like Lizzie Webb to devise special exercises.

Three prize winners in each group will join Lizzie for a day at Longleat on September 28. Closing date is August 23. More information from Pagoda Books.

THE EXERCISES

Four of the children who appear in the *Exercise Zoo* came to The Times to perform a selection of the routines in the book for our photographer.

They are Nat Alexander (frog), Beth Serota (cat), Anya Serota (monkey) and Ben Webb (lion). These are different characters from the ones they assume in the book, but children grow while books are processed and the animals they represent here were determined by the size of the costumes we hired from Theatre Zoo.

Each animal has six to eight exercises and here are a selection of them:

Match the Monkey
Jump for joy with great big leaps. Be sure to land with knees bent.

Corinne the Cat
Lean four times to your right and four times to your left, clasping both hands behind your head.

Lester the Lion
Bend your legs and crouch. Now punch your arms in front of you, changing arms for each punch. Think of something you'd really like to hit. Hit out eight times.

Frederika the Frog
Raise your right knee and hug it with both hands. Now let your hands go and take your right leg straight behind. Bend your other leg as you do this and put your hand on your hips. Repeat the same actions with your left leg.

Gemma the Giraffe
Shy, hangs her head and looks at you from under her eyelashes (I got that from Princess Diana) and Perry the Penguin is the studious child who reads all day.

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Animal costumes for children and adults from Theatre Zoo, 28 New Row, London WC2 (01-836 3150). Pagoda Books is at 30 Museum Street, London WC1 (01-837 0880).

ROADSHOW

Lizzie Webb will be signing copies of *Exercise Zoo* and demonstrating exercises on July 20 at Young People's Theatre, High Street, London W8, 12.30-1.30pm; July 22 in Glasgow as part of Health Education Week; August 25 at All Creatures Great and Small, Edinburgh, noon-1pm and 4-6pm (part of the Edinburgh Book Festival).

Animal costumes for children and adults from Theatre Zoo, 28 New Row, London WC2 (01-836 3150). Pagoda Books is at 30 Museum Street, London WC1 (01-837 0880).

CONSUMER NEWS

Do all the people in your flash pictures suffer from pink eye? Are your action shots static and your stills lifeless? Then you need a new booklet produced by Kodak.

The *Art of 35mm Photography* shows the work of two experts, Stan Rihon and Ian Shaw. Subject headings are Scenes, People, Still Life, Movement and Experimental and each picture (colour and black and white) is accompanied by notes on the speed and type of film chosen and on composition.

The booklet costs £2.50 from photographic dealers - some may be offering it free if you buy a camera.

Kodak have also run a Conservation Awards scheme. Devoted by the World Wildlife Fund, it was launched in November last year to encourage groups of young people to invent and take part in conservation projects.

The closing date for entries is August 1 and the judging panel will be headed by David Attenborough. The first prize winners will receive £1,000 and 49 other prizes of sums down to £100.

More details are available from Kodak Conservation Awards, Hestketh House, 43-45 Portman Square, London W1 (01-935 2655).

Rock records

REVIEW

Dignified debut, crafted with care

Sting: *The Dream of the Blue Turtles* (A&A DREAM 1)
Bob Dylan: *Empire Burlesque* (CBS 86313)
Elvis Presley: *Reconsider Baby* (RCA PL85418)

To his great credit Sting has opted in his first solo album for the spontaneity that has made the Police an exceptional group. *The Dream of the Blue Turtles* may well have cost as much as the half a million pounds that it took Bryan Ferry to piece together *Boys and Girls*, but it certainly does not give that impression. All the 10 tracks sound as though they were recorded by a small group of musicians playing together at the same time, exploring material undiluted by over-familiarity, mixed on to tape more or less as they stood.

This, presumably, is what Sting was after when he drew into the project young American jazz musicians of the calibre of Branford Marsalis (saxophone), Darryl Jones (bass), Kenny Kirkland (piano) and Omar Hakim (drums). To ask such men to overdub on rhythms set by electronic drums and synthesizers would be like inviting one of the Rous brothers to pour the tomato ketchup over your Big Mac.

The best of this music jumps and flows with pronounced rhythmic vivacity, notably the first single, "If You Love Somebody, Set Them Free", the slyly jazzy "Consider Me Gone", and the bursting melodic "Fortress Around Your Heart", which builds through a rather shapeless verse to its indecible chorus in the best tradition of the Police. On the rowdy "Shadows in the Rain", the young Marsalis sounds both amused and pleased by being asked to impersonate Clarence Clemons, a task he achieves with honours.

The worst of it meanders in a dream, grasping at Sting's own clichés - the melodies of "The Russians" (despite its acknowledged borrowing from Proki-



Studio shot: Sting during a break in recording

fiy). "Children's Crusade" and the streamlined reggae of "Love is the Seventh Wave" - and grappling inconclusively with Big Themes. For all its careful craftsmanship, even the already celebrated "We Work the Black Seam", his impassioned defence of the miners' strike, lacks the mysterious dimension that turns propaganda into art.

Whatever its imperfections, however, Sting's music never loses its dignity, which is more than can be said about the Bob Dylan of *Empire Burlesque*, a meaningless title for meaningless music that will leave no trace whatsoever on the world through which it passes. Imagine making such a statement about Dylan only 10 years ago. The truth, however, is that he has been off the rails since *Blood on the Tracks*, his last album to contain songs expressive of his talent.

Picking out the better moments from among these 10 new songs is simply not worth the trouble. Arthur Baker's self-consciously fashionable, mix-merely emphasises the general lack of focus when, out of the prevailing slovenliness, a musical shape does appear, as in the military motif of "Something's Burning, Baby", it seems ludicrously contrived.

It is easy to tell when Dylan is making a record for the sake of it. His idiosyncratic voice sounds... well, silly.

When it comes to old heroes, Elvis Presley is a far better bet nowdays, and from its moodily stylish cover photograph, unnumbered by typography, to its careful annotation, *Reconsider Baby* must be acknowledged as among the best of the posthumous packages of Presleyana.

The premise is Elvis as a blues singer, which he certainly was, at least some of the time. We begin with the title track, written by the bluesman Lowell Fulson and recorded by Presley in 1960, and end with his version of Charles Brown's classic "Merry Christmas, Baby", cut in 1971. The remaining performances, recorded between 1954 and 1969, come from the songbooks of such notables as Percy Mayfield, Arthur Crudup, Tommy Tucker, Lonnie Johnson and Chuck Willis.

A version of "One Night" includes the pre-censor lyric ("One night of sin..."), and "Stranger in My Own Home Town", recorded with Chips Moman's team in Memphis, carries a poignant truth beneath the rowdy bluster of Presley's performance. "Merry Christmas, Baby" is one of his very finest performances, a relaxed slow blues convincing enough in the idiom to stand along side anything by, say, Otis Redding. He really was a remarkable artist.

Richard Williams

Energy and attack in twin guitars

The Blasters: *Hard Line* (London/Slash SLAP 5)
The Beach Boys: *The Beach Boys* (Caribou CRB 28378)
Prefab Sprout: *Steve McQueen* (Kitchenware KWLP3)

A highly praised band from Los Angeles, the Blasters, (Times Choice, page 17) manage to recreate a familiar strain of Americana on *Hard Line*. They are imbued with the tradition of white rock'n'roll but make the post-Presley transition - fun rather than archaic. In the twin guitars of the Alvin brothers lies an energy and attack that can transfer to a bar, or even up a house party.

The sound is by no means restricted to urban blues; the Blasters gravitate effortlessly to soul, cajon and country-like music of their contemporaries who do this sort of thing to perfection.

Waiting for a good new Beach Boys album these days is like waiting for Godot. It never turns up. With the possible exception of the *Light Album*, the Beach Boys haven't revved

up above idling speed since the trio of *Surf's Up*, *Holland and Carl and the Passions* were released in the 1970s. Their latest eponymous album does little to raise expectations.

The absence of Dennis Wilson, who drowned, is a reminder that the last, startling, moments to emerge from the camp were on his 1977 set, *Pacific Ocean Blue*.

In order to change direction or to make a belated attempt to keep up with times they weren't made for, the Boys have enlisted Culture Club producer Steve Levine and that other Boy George O'Dowd, who contributes one song, as well as a host of English musicians whose credentials are only matched by their unsuitability for this project.

The combination of southern Californian nostalgia and British hi-tech works only when Brian Wilson's teenage spectres are brought back to life, albeit as shadows of the past. Enthusiasts will want to hear "California Calling", a litany of surf anthems, and may draw brief

satisfaction from Wilson's collaborations with his medical adviser, Eugene E. Landy, on the lethargic but lovely "I'm So Lonely" and the shimmering ballad "It's Just A Matter Of Time".

After their patchy debut, *Swoon*, Prefab Sprout have managed to make an album that matches crisp arrangements and musicianship to Paddy McAloon's intriguing lyrical meanderings. On *Steve McQueen* the raw edginess and self-conscious wordplay that made parts of *Swoon* seem affected are replaced by an assurance that suggests Prefab will not be happy to remain cult figures for much longer.

McAloon's ability to fuse the knowing comment with the accidental gesture has been given a vital solder by producer Thomas Dolby. The songs are shaped and crafted with an attention to detail that makes great pop music.

Max Bell

DESIGN FILE

Design is on a winning streak. Students on design courses run by the Business and Technical Education Council (BTEC) have won 21 Royal Society of Arts bursaries and 20 first prizes in competitions and award schemes during the last academic year.

The bursaries were awarded for students in industrial design, ceramics, decorative laminates, design for leisure, fashion, footwear, furnishing textiles, furniture, interior design, television graphics, packaging, postage stamps and new concept development.

Fifteen colleges featured in the results. The London College of Furniture was named seven times, Portsmouth College of Art and Design six times and Berkshire College six times.

Other awards included first prize for a student from The London College of Fashion, in an international competition in Düsseldorf among 20 European colleges, and first prize in the 1985 Platinum Awards to a jewellery design student from Medway College of Design.

For the first time, a college featured in the British Academy Awards when Bournemouth and Poole College of Art and Design received a BAFTA nomination for the best short film.

GOOD BUYS

Any bargain hunter heading north on the M1 might like to have an excuse to take a break near Nottingham. The area is full of factory shops selling clearance lines and seconds and a small booklet has just been published which tells you where to find what and when.

It covers 30 shops in Mansfield, Nottingham, Loughborough and Alfreton, and you would be wise not to go foraging without it.

The booklet, *Factory Shops in & around Nottingham*, costs £1 plus a 12p stamp from the compiler Gillian Cutress, 34 Park Hill, London SW4 (01-622 3722).

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History for sale: flashback to *The Star*, August 2, 1934
A headline history of the Second World War goes on show next Thursday in Covent Garden. Four thousand newspapers have been collected by Robert Heron to chart the period from Hitler's appointment as Reich President on August 2, 1934 to VJ Day, August 15, 1945.
Papers from both sides of the Atlantic are shown, highlighting among other major events, Oswald Mosley's rallies, Chamberlain's letter, Pearl Harbour, the fall of Mussolini, Hitler's death, and Hiroshima.
All the newspapers (like the one pictured above) are for sale, either framed or in a protective sleeve. Framed papers or front pages are £25 to £50, with one or two rare examples at £100. There are some reproductions, too, at £5.
"The Headlines of World War II" will be at The Anniversary Press, 46 The Market, (entrance in South Row), Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-379 7779) to the end of September. Opening hours are 9am to 6pm Monday to Friday, 11am to 4pm Saturday.

DRINK
A choice for the discerning

On Thursday evening 650 distinguished people including the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Prime Minister, ambassadors, high commissioners, heads of industry and the arts will celebrate *The Times* Bicentenary with a banquet held in the magnificent 19th century Great Hall at Hampton Court Palace.
I am not worried about the food, the ambience, nor even the fireworks and 18th-century style entertainment. But I am concerned that everyone will like the wine, because for the last two months I and *The Times* tasting panel have been agonizing over the choice.
Our first meeting was a fairly relaxed affair - all we had to select was an aperitif white and red wine suitable for drinking both before and after the meal by those guests who dislike champagne. The bubbly, incidentally, is non-vintage Bollinger, specially selected, labelled and shipped for *The Times* Bicentenary and very good it is; watch out for the forthcoming readers' offer.
All of us felt that the aperitif wine should be crisp, refreshing yet uncomplicated. Our choice came down to a soft, fruity, Pinot Blanc from Alsace that lost, finally, to an excellent flowery Muscadet de Sevre et Maine sur lie - the '53 Chateau de Chasselas from those impeccable Muscadet producers - Chateau Carré. With its lively lemony character, it should perk up even the most jaded tastes. Curzon Wine Company, 11

decided to have a grand taste-off between France and Australia.
As with the aperitif white and red, all the dinner wines were tasted blind and, although most of the panel enjoyed the strong smoky charms of the '83 Saint Aubin from Malmaison Wine Cellars (28 Midland Road, London NW1 £6.65), it was no match for the superb 1983 Wynn's Coonawarra Estate Chardonnay. Blessed with elegant buttery taste with a touch of vanilla oak on the finish, it is a classic example of the finest Australian Chardonnays and worth every penny of its price. (Selected Victorian Wine branches £7.90).
With a choice of salads and main course dishes such as Filet de Boeuf Henry VIII, Supreme of Chicken Richelieu and a Coulis of Salmon and Sole, the panel agreed that the guests could happily continue with the Wynn's Chardonnay or change to a red wine to partner the beef in particular. Claret was thought by everyone to be a better summer evening red than burgundy.
From an impressive line-up of 10 different clarets, we all plumped for the magnificent '77 Haut-Bages Libéral from Berry Bros & Rudd (31 St James's Street, London SW1. £6.45). A much under-estimated Bordeaux year, the Haut-Bages Libéral, a fifth-growth Pauillac, is the finest 1977 I have tasted, with a warm garnet colour and rich, cedary, cassis-like palate.
Jane MacQuitty

THE TIMES SWEATSHIRT

THE classic stretch-knit sweatshirt originated in the U.S.A. as a comfortable easy-fit top for sports and leisure activities. The design - crew-neck with deep raglan sleeves and stretch-knit neck, cuffs and hem, makes it a useful multi-purpose garment that offers a practical alternative to traditional pullovers and sweaters for casual wear.



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THE WEEK AHEAD



THEATRE
ON BOARD: David Essex is star and composer of *Mutiny!* the lavish new British musical based on the story of the Bounty. Essex plays Fletcher Christian and Frank Finlay is Captain Bligh; the director is Michael Bogdanov. Previews from today at the Piccadilly Theatre (01-437 4506). Opens July 18.



DANCE
DUAL ROLE: Natalia Makarova the leading ballerina of the day, has two entirely different roles on the London stage next week. On Monday, Wednesday and Friday she dances Tatiana in *Olegin* with Festival Ballet; and on Thursday she composes the fund raising gala for the London Contemporary Dance Theatre.



GALLERIES
LONE VOICE: William Roberts (1895-1980) was an artistic loner who attacked with merciless wit the writers he felt misrepresented his art. This self portrait is included in an exhibition of watercolours, drawings and etchings at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge (0222 69501) from Tuesday.



CONCERTS
CITY LIGHTS: Gennadi Rozdzenytsky conducts the London Symphony Orchestra in Shostakovich's Overture Opus 96 and - an unusual choice for him - Vaughan Williams's London Symphony in the opening concert of the City of London Festival. Barbican Centre (01-628 8795) on Monday.



ROCK
ON THE BEAT: Gilberto Gil has been known to make Covent Garden feel like Rio on the last night of carnival. One of Brazil's finest young singers and composers, he is open to influences from rock, soul and reggae. Imagine the bossa nova with muscled, Dominican Theatre, London W1 (01-580 9562) on Tuesday.



FILMS
RISEING STAR: Wendy Hughes is the star of *Careful, He Might Hear You* (PG), which scooped eight awards from the Australian Film Institute and concerns the tussle between two sisters for control of a homeless boy. From Friday at the Berkeley (01-636 6148) and Arts Chelsea (01-352 5986).

THE TIMES CHOICE

THEATRE

IN PREVIEW

CALIFORNIA DOG FIGHT: New American play by a former journalist, Mark Lee. Parallels between human and canine behaviour. Bush Theatre, Shepherd's Bush Green, London W12 (01-734 3388). Previews from Wed. Opens July 17.

THE GEM: Bristol Old Vic production (first in Britain for 25 years) of Percy Bysshe Shelley's full-blooded study of the 16th-century Italian family. Almeida Theatre, Almeida Street, London N1 (01-359 4404). Previews Fri and July 13. Opens July 15.

OPENINGS

DESTINY: Partly rewritten for this revival, David Edgar's award-winning political play spans 30 years from 1947 to the mid-70s rise of right-wing extremists. Directed by Chris Bond. Helli Moon, 213 Mile End Road, London E1 (01-730 4000). From Thurs until Aug 10.

A STATE OF AFFAIRS: Graham Swannell's play, a series of scenes of contemporary marriage, was seen first at the Lyric Studio, Hammersmith in March. Gary Bond, Nicole McQuillan, directed by Peter James. Duchess Theatre (01-636 8243/240 9648). Previews today, Mon, Tues. Opens Wed.

SWEET BIRD OF YOUTH: Lauren Bacall and Michael Beck as a fading film star and her gigolo come to visit his Deep South home town in Tennessee Williams's 1959 Broadway triumph. Directed by Harold Pinter. Theatre Royal, Haymarket (01-930 9832). Previews today, Mon. Open Tues.

THE THREE MUSKETEERS: New Vic Company in Phil Wood's loose adaptation of Dumas, incorporating such novelties as an exploding horse and *The City Slick*. Greenwich Theatre (01-858 7755). Preview today. Opens Mon.

SELECTED



PRIVACY: David Hare and Howard Brenton's near-the-knuckle account of the rise of a ruthless colonial newspaper magnate provides Anthony Hopkins (above) with a gem of a role. Olivier (01-928 2252).

THEATRE

RICHARD III: Antony Sher in a messianic performance as "the bottled spider" finds able support in Patricia Routledge, Malcolm Storry and Penelope Beaumont. Barbican (01-628 8795/638 8881).

TWO INTO ONE: Ray Cooney's riotous farce of marital misunderstanding involving a philandering politician, Cass, includes Anton Rodgers, Michael Williams and Kathy Staff. Shaftesbury (01-379 5399).

WILD HONEY: Last staged as Platonov, Chekhov's delicate early comedy emerges as a lovable masterpiece in its own right, thanks to Michael Frayn's translation and Christopher Morahan's production with Ian McKellen at its centre. Lyttelton (01-928 2252).

GUYS AND DOLLS: Lulu is absolutely right for the role of Miss Adelaide in the National Theatre's exuberant revival, with strong support from Norman Rossington, Clarke Peters, Betsy Brantley, Prince of Wales (01-930 8881).

HENRY V: Kenneth Branagh gives a definitive performance as the hero-king, with sterling support from Nicholas Woodeson, Cecilia Paoletti and Simon Probert. Barbican (01-628 8795/638 8881).

OUT OF TOWN

MANCHESTER: Who's a Lucky Boy? By Alan Price. Based on Hogarth's *The Rake's Progress*, with designs by Gerald Scarle, this new musical stars Michael Mueller as the modern-day Tom Rakewell. Royal Exchange (061 633 8933).

STRAITFORD-UPON-AVON: Whitbread Flowers Warehouse, Regal Road, off Birmingham Road. *Mary - After the Queen* by Angela Hewins: continuing the story of the local family begun in *The Dillan* (adapted by Ron Hutchinson from her book) and opening a new venue for the RSC. Directed by Barry Kyle. Tues and Wed. Royal Shakespeare Company (0783 295523).

CHICHESTER: The Philanthropist by Christopher Hampton. Edward Fox as the middle-aged bachelor don, whose pretensions crumble as the play progresses. Directed by Patrick Garland. Previews Mon, Tues. Opens Wed. Thurs matinee and evening. In repertory. Festival Theatre (0243 781312).

SWINDON: Move Over Mozart by Roger Holman: a new musical/rock opera set in a modern comprehensive. A cast of 100, mainly from local colleges and schools. Tues, Wed, Fri and July 13 only. Wyvern Theatre (0793 24481).

FILMS

OPENINGS

RETURN TO OZ (U): Almost 50 years after *The Wizard of Oz*, a sequel of sorts emerges, though the tone of this Disney production - directed by Walter Murch, a sound expert and Coppola colleague - is unusually lugubrious. With Nicol Williamson, Jean Marsh. 10-year-old Fairuzza Balk and lashings of special effects. Leicester Square Theatre (01-930 5252). From Thurs.

THE PRINCESS (16): An ironic title, for this hard-hitting Hungarian film - a Grand Prix winner at Locarno in 1982 - ruthlessly explores the lives of teenage girls working in a Budapest spinning mill. Directed by Pal Erdoss, with a fine central performance by Erika Ozda. Sate Notting Hill (01-221 0220). From Thurs.

THE LAST DRAGON (15): The film we've all been waiting for - a kung-fu musical, with rock video visuals and ground-breaking digital recording. Classic Haymarket (01-839 1527). Dominion (01-580 9563). From Fri.

CAMBRIDGE FILM FESTIVAL: Includes retrospectives on Francesco Rosi and the German director, Rainer Werner Fassbinder, whose latest film, *Sugar Baby*, receives its British premiere at the festival. From Thurs, until July 28. Most screenings at the Arts Cinema (box office 0223 352001).

SELECTED

OUR STORY (15): A bizarre concoction from the French director Bertrand Blier, comically pitched midway between boulevard comedy and the surreal satires of Buñuel. With Alain Delon as a weary Lothario.



clinging like a limpet to Nathalie Baye (above) as a flirtatious stranger. Lumiere (01-636 0691) and from Thurs at Chelsea Cinema (01-351 3742).

BIRDY (18): William Wharton's poetic novel strenuously directed by Alan Parker. Potent performances from Matthew Modine as the institutionalized bird-obsessed Vietnam veteran and Nicholas Cage as Birdy's buddy. Odeon Haymarket (01-930 2771).

SILVER CITY (15): Polish immigrants in post-war Australia: routine love story, though its tenderness and nose for detail make amends. With Gosia Dobrowolska, Ivan Kants. Chelsea Cinema (01-351 3742) until Wed; then at Screen on Baker Street (01-935 2772).

WITNESS (15): Detective Harrison Ford opens a hornet's nest of police corruption and hides out with the Amish religious community, where his key child witness lives. Excitingly directed by Peter Weir, an Australian making his first Hollywood film. Plaza (01-437 1234).

MASK (15): Peter Bogdanovich's simple but skilful true-life drama about Rocky Dennis, a lively Californian teenager suffering from extreme facial disfigurement. Subtle performances from Eric Stoltz (almost obliterated beneath make-up) and Cher. Empire (01-437 1234).

GALLERIES

OPENINGS

PAINTING IN NEWLYNE: A comprehensive survey of painting from the fishing village that was the art capital of Cornwall before the ascendancy of St Ives. Many plain air paintings of local fishermen by such artists as Frank Bramley and Stanhope Forbes. Barbican Centre, London EC2 (01-638 4141). From Thurs.

THE OTHER HOGARTH: First show in his home town for the travel artist Paul Hogarth RA, who has illustrated books by Robert Graves and Graham Greene, and published many albums from his own travels.

RICHARD LONG: First show in the North-west for the artist who draws his inspiration and subject matter from nature. Includes photo-works and a sculpture made of local green slate. Abbot Hall Art Gallery, Kendal, Cumbria (0538-22464). Both from today.

JS BACH/GF HANDEL: Two three-hundredth anniversaries are celebrated in dry style with original autographed manuscripts (such as *The Messiah*) and engravings. Includes a look at the Bach revival in the 19th century, led by Samuel Wesley. British Library, Crawford Room, Great Russell Street, London WC1 (01-638 1544). From Fri.

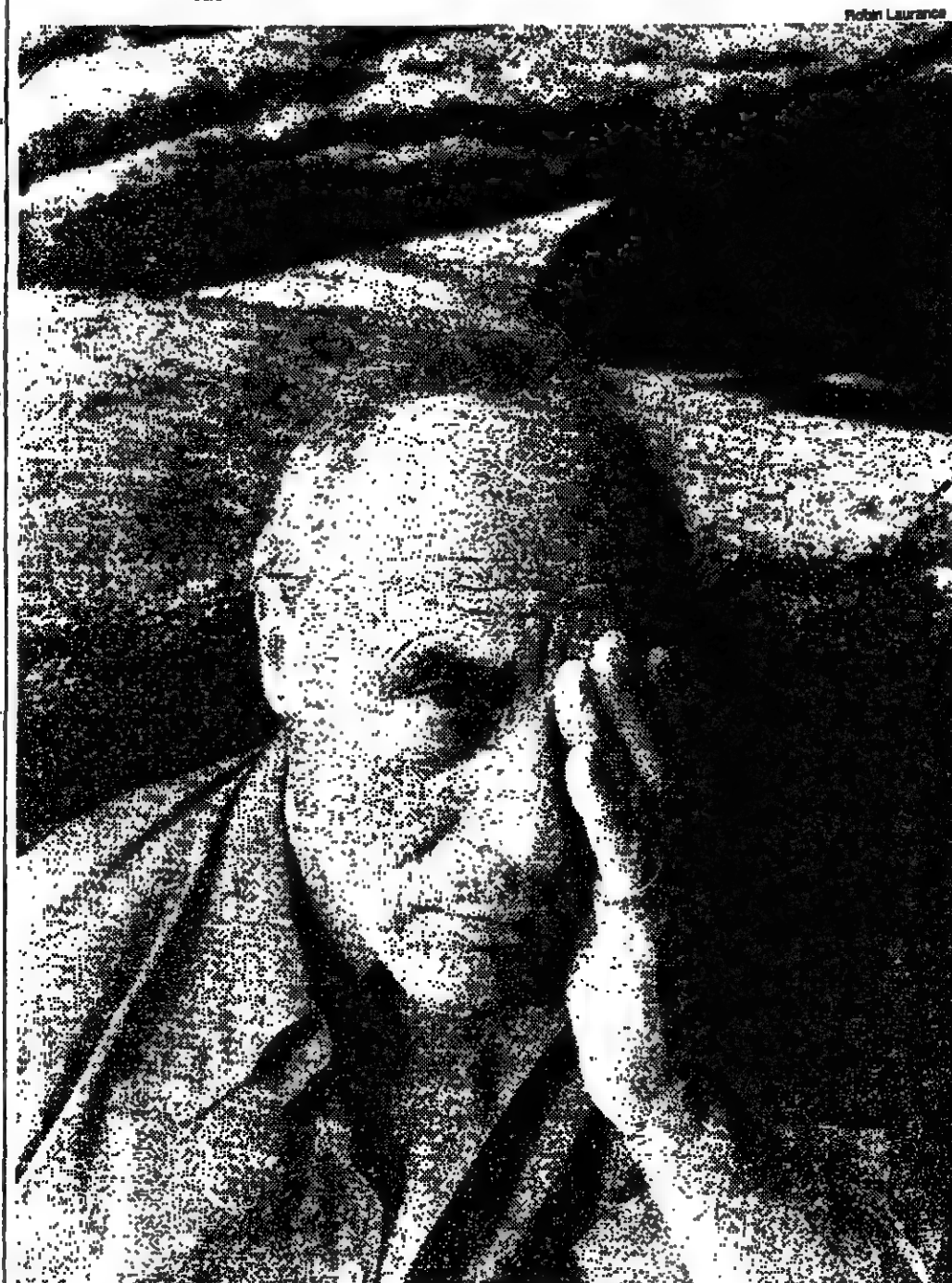
SELECTED

ASPECTS OF POST-IMPRESSIONISM: First exhibition in new gallery backed by 257 private investors and the government's Business Expansion Scheme. Includes many great names (Manet, Degas and Matisse) although the works are not up to their best standard. Connaught Square, Albemarle Street, London W1 (01-406 0362).

TREASURES OF THE USSR: You can look, but certainly not touch, these holograms of priceless objects from the Hermitage, Leningrad, and the Museum of Historic Treasures of the Ukraine in Kiev. An intriguing show from the Academy of Sciences in the USSR. The Trocadero, Piccadilly Circus, London W1 (information from Frances Lumley (01-583 1037).

S. J. PEELER: Strong elements of the Auld Alliance are evident in the work of the Scottish painter Peeler (1871-1935), as seen in his Fauve-coloured paintings of flowers, landscapes and beaches, often of peat-bog subjects. The exhibition includes drawings and paraphernalia from his studio. Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Belford Road, Edinburgh (031-556 8921).

Sharp eye on the painter's craft



For many of his 65 years, Patrick Heron has been sitting in his studio doing nothing but staring at the walls. At one point he used to go home in the evening and his wife Delia would ask: "Have you found the right colour for that space yet?" and he would answer "No". When Heron does lift his brush it is to "whip" his compositions with one hurried, hurried movement. Sometimes he crushes pencil nibs as he goes. "I'm deliberately underlining," he says. "Almost thinking of something else".

An abstract painter who believes in T.S. Eliot's maxim: "Only the really new can be truly traditional". Heron's life's work has been the tapping of his own subconscious and converting it into colour. "My painting takes me by the scruff of the neck, right into myself," he says of his latest phase, which began with "one year of agony" in 1981, and ended with enough confidence to leave some inadvertent dribbles on the canvas. He liked them so much. The resultant giant, scumbled and daubed canvases, now in pale sweet colours, now in strong mauves reds and yellows, can be seen with examples of four other phases from the last 40 years, at the Barbican Art Gallery from Thursday.

Before letting visitors to his studio look at his work, Heron compulsively guides them around the traces left by his famous predecessor, Ben Nicholson. First to the wall with the shoal of pale paint marks where the master cleaned his brushes; next to the pencilled message on the door saying please "leave the rolled-up newspaper there as it soaks up the looks. Apart from contending with his own subconscious, Heron carries the entire collective subconscious of St Ives around with him, constantly referring to people he has known: Barbara Hepworth, Naum Gabo and Bernard Leach.

Leaving St Ives, with its pale Ben Nicholson roofs, pale bodies on the beach and pale Cornish fudge in the shops, Heron's Metro winds its way along the coast to Eagle's Nest

Patrick Heron talks to Sarah Jane Checkland about his abstract approach to painting

at Zennor, the driver extolling the "best light in the world" as he goes. High on the outcrop of hitherto, gravity-defying rocks reminiscent of the shapes in his paintings, surrounded by a dense garden of bushes and fir trees, and highlighted at intervals by splashes of rich colour from the flowers, Eagle's Nest is immediately recognizable as Heron's natural habitat. Having stayed there as a boy, and bought the house in the 1950s, he lives there now as a widower. Here, like the plumage of some exotic bird, Heron's bright clothes find a home - apple green sneakers, yellow vest and deep purple shirt, one sleeve up, the other down "because I don't like symmetry". He leads his guests to a suntrap between two tall hedges and, to the accompaniment of the buzzing bees and the repeated calls of the resident cuckoo, talks non-stop.

Heron is the first to admit that words are his curse. They first came when he was a firm back in 1945 when he started writing art criticism in the *New English Weekly*, and then the *New Statesman*. Inspired by the paintings of Bonnard and Matisse, he promoted form and colour rather than the content. "It was all about making people use their bloody eyes," he says. At that time, he "discovered" Roger Hilton, Ivon Hitchens and Matthew Smith, and was acclaimed as the best writer on art in England since Roger Fry. Heron soon discovered, though, that words had a sting. They are rash enough to put across something that actually is enlightening people, particularly the British, prefer to grasp that before they grasp the visual thing," says Heron. Other

problems included the sticky matter of professional jealousy. Since 1956 Heron has poured scorn on the skills of Francis Bacon, currently extolled as the greatest living painter in the Tate Gallery. When Heron wrote in a New York paper that Bacon's "interest in horror was fashionable and not at all prophetic, it sounded like sour grapes. Although as a trustee of the Tate Gallery Heron is part of the art establishment, he is clearly its Cassandra also. He is affectionately known for denouncing roundly what he sees as the decline in the art school system. Having recently learned to appreciate visual forms for his first time ever, he says, Britain's newly gained perceptions will soon be lost under the cuts of this "Brave New World" government.

Stoudering at the Tate Gallery for missing the chance to reevaluate the St Ives artists in their recent exhibition, he claims that by including so many lesser artists, they gave the impression that the art there was a social rather than an important artistic phenomenon. Another battle, which he fears he may be losing, is his defence of the stunning stretch of shore on which Eagle's Nest stands - the iron-age fields, wild flowers and curved Cornish cove. Since 1962, the Navy has had its eye on it for a practice range. The climax came when eight helicopters were sent to hover intimidatantly over the house, flattening the cabbages in his vegetable garden. He still fears an invasion at any time.

Heron's main concern this week is to hang the 50 paintings he has chosen for the show. They themselves comprise many of his history, from the Braque-inspired figurative of the 1940s and 1950s through the "tachiste" paintings inspired directly by his garden, to the sharply interlocking shapes and colours of the 1970s. Many he has not seen for years; many dating from 1958 to 1962 have never been seen in this country. The exhibition of Patrick Heron's paintings is at the Barbican Art Gallery (01-638 4141) until Sept 1

ARTS DIARY

All right on the night?

There will be quite a few red faces when an exhibition of posters entitled "Broadway Flops" opens on July 24 at the Dress Circle Gallery, Monmouth Street, London. They include *Via Galactica*, which was conceived and directed by Sir Peter Hall (it ran



for eight performances); *Miss Mollat*, the musical version of *The Corn is Green*, which though it featured Bette Davis, closed after previews and before the official first night *Dance a Little Closer*, written by Alan J. Lerner and starring his wife Liz Robertson which quickly became known on Broadway as "Close a Little Closer" and lasted one night. Quite a hit by comparison was Lerner's *Carmelita* which had 17 performances. Other unlucky stars include Diana Rigg, Angela Lansbury, Richard Chamberlain and Lillian Gish. It will be interesting to see how many will come to the opening.

In the picture
 Royal photographer Cecil Beaton's relationship with the exclusive screen star Greta Garbo went rather further than has hitherto been revealed. In his authorized biography of Beaton, published by Weidenfeld and Nicolson on July 25, Hugo Vickers quotes Truman Capote as saying that Beaton was one of the few men to put too fine a point on it. Vickers says, she used him for his body. Among Beaton's other lovers, apparently, were Adele Astaire, sister of Fred, and the actress Coral Browne.

Waiting for it
 Yet again it seems we are destined not to have a Peter Brook production on the British stage. Having been deprived of his *Carmen* and *The Cherry Orchard* we may well not see his epic three-part adaptation of the Indian Bible, *The Mahabharata*. The first part of his nine-hour production, *Le Partir de Des*, opens at the Avignon Festival tomorrow and will go on tour to Copenhagen, Madrid and Frankfurt before opening on November 8 at Peter Brook's Paris theatre, Les Bouffes du Nord. "We will eventually see the English version on Channel 4 in 1987. Why not the real thing?" "We go where we're invited," says Brook. "We're just waiting for offers from England".

Family affair
 Talk about a mafia. The playwright Ronald Harwood who is cousin to actor Antony Sher, has a son also called Antony who commissioned and edited Sher's book *The Year of the King for Chatto & Windus*. Meanwhile Harwood's daughter Deborah who runs the Art Show Gallery in Fulham, has been in charge of mounting Sher's oils and drawings from the book at the Barbican Galleries (almost all of which have sold out).

When nan need a limo
 The announcement of a new insurance broker A off its Lloyd's agency business J management is a management buy-out.

Bonn to a fifth Lufthansa
 By Our City So
 The West German government is planning to almost a fifth of the Lufthansa the national private hands, was traded this week at DM12.2 billion compared with DM16.2 billion two years ago. A further part of the Lufthansa, which has a 100 per cent interest, is being sold to the state. The forecast for the next year will yield a 50 per cent return.

Family affair
 The plan being formed by the main proponent of the Finance Commission would see the government's share in the company being sold to the state. The plan would see the government's share in the company being sold to the state. The plan would see the government's share in the company being sold to the state.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

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| High | Low | | | | | Div | Yld |
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| 168 | 137 | Paragon | 139 | 0 | 17.2 | 8.7 | |
| 169 | 285 | Uti Newspapers | 270 | 0 | 27.2 | 12.7 | |
| OIL | | | | | | | |
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| 207 | | 208 | | Waltham | | 209 | | -2 | | 21 | | 22 | | 23 | | 24 | | 25 | | 26 | | 27 | | 28 | | 29 | | 30 | | 31 | | 32 | | 33 | | 34 | | 35 | | 36 | | 37 | | 38 | | 39 | | 40 | | 41 | | 42 | | 43 | | 44 | | 45 | | 46 | | 47 | | 48 | | 49 | | 50 | | 51 | | 52 | | 53 | | 54 | | 55 | | 56 | | 57 | | 58 | | 59 | | 60 | | 61 | | 62 | | 63 | | 64 | | 65 | | 66 | | 67 | | 68 | | 69 | | 70 | | 71 | | 72 | | 73 | | 74 | | 75 | | 76 | | 77 | | 78 | | 79 | | 80 | | 81 | | 82 | | 83 | | 84 | | 85 | | 86 | | 87 | | 88 | | 89 | | 90 | | 91 | | 92 | | 93 | | 94 | | 95 | | 96 | | 97 | | 98 | | 99 | | 100 | | 101 | | 102 | | 103 | | 104 | | 105 | | 106 | | 107 | | 108 | | 109 | | 110 | | 111 | | 112 | | 113 | | 114 | | 115 | | 116 | | 117 | | 118 | | 119 | | 120 | | 121 | | 122 | | 123 | | 124 | | 125 | | 126 | | 127 | | 128 | | 129 | | 130 | | 131 | | 132 | | 133 | | 134 | | 135 | | 136 | | 137 | | 138 | | 139 | | 140 | | 141 | | 142 | | 143 | | 144 | | 145 | | 146 | | 147 | | 148 | | 149 | | 150 | | 151 | | 152 | | 153 | | 154 | | 155 | | 156 | | 157 | | 158 | | 159 | | 160 | | 161 | | 162 | | 163 | | 164 | | 165 | | 166 | | 167 | | 168 | | 169 | | 170 | | 171 | | 172 | | 173 | | 174 | | 175 | | 176 | | 177 | | 178 | | 179 | | 180 | | 181 | | 182 | | 183 | | 184 | | 185 | | 186 | | 187 | | 188 | | 189 | | 190 | | 191 | | 192 | | 193 | | 194 | | 195 | | 196 | | 197 | | 198 | | 199 | | 200 | | 201 | | 202 | | 203 | | 204 | | 205 | | 206 | | 207 | | 208 | | 209 | | 210 | | 211 | | 212 | | 213 | | 214 | | 215 | | 216 | | 217 | | 218 | | 219 | | 220 | | 221 | | 222 | | 223 | | 224 | | 225 | | 226 | | 227 | | 228 | | 229 | | 230 | | 231 | | 232 | | 233 | | 234 | | 235 | | 236 | | 237 | | 238 | | 239 | | 240 | | 241 | | 242 | | 243 | | 244 | | 245 | | 246 | | 247 | | 248 | | 249 | | 250 | | 251 | | 252 | | 253 | | 254 | | 255 | | 256 | | 257 | | 258 | | 259 | | 260 | | 261 | | 262 | | 263 | | 264 | | 265 | | 266 | | 267 | | 268 | | 269 | | 270 | | 271 | | 272 | | 273 | | 274 | | 275 | | 276 | | 277 | | 278 | | 279 | | 280 | | 281 | | 282 | | 283 | | 284 | | 285 | | 286 | | 287 | | 288 | | 289 | | 290 | | 291 | | 292 | | 293 | | 294 | | 295 | | 296 | | 297 | | 298 | | 299 | | 300 | | 301 | | 302 | | 303 | | 304 | | 305 | | 306 | | 307 | | 308 | | 309 | | 310 | | 311 | | 312 | | 313 | | 314 | | 315 | | 316 | | 317 | | 318 | | 319 | | 320 | | 321 | | 322 | | 323 | | 324 | | 325 | | 326 | | 327 | | 328 | | 329 | | 330 | | 331 | | 332 | | 333 | | 334 | | 335 | | 336 | | 337 | | 338 | | 339 | | 340 | | 341 | | 342 | | 343 | | 344 | | 345 | | 346 | | 347 | | 348 | | 349 | | 350 | | 351 | | 352 | | 353 | | 354 | | 355 | | 356 | | 357 | | 358 | | 359 | | 360 | | 361 | | 362 | | 363 | | 364 | | 365 | | 366 | | 367 | | 368 | | 369 | | 370 | | 371 | | 372 | | 373 | | 374 | | 375 | | 376 | | 377 | | 378 | | 379 | | 380 | | 381 | | 382 | | 383 | | 384 | | 385 | | 386 | | 387 | | 388 | | 389 | | 390 | | 391 | | 392 | | 393 | | 394 | | 395 | | 396 | | 397 | | 398 | | 399 | | 400 | | 401 | | 402 | | 403 | | 404 | | 405 | | 406 | | 407 | | 408 | | 409 | | 410 | | 411 | | 412 | | 413 | | 414 | | 415 | | 416 | | 417 | | 418 | | 419 | | 420 | | 421 | | 422 | | 423 | | 424 | | 425 | | 426 | | 427 | | 428 | | 429 | | 430 | | 431 | | 432 | | 433 | | 434 | | 435 | | 436 | | 437 | | 438 | | 439 | | 440 | | 441 | | 442 | | 443 | | 444 | | 445 | | 446 | | 447 | | 448 | | 449 | | 450 | | 451 | | 452 | | 453 | | 454 | | 455 | | 456 | | 457 | | 458 | | 459 | | 460 | | 461 | | 462 | | 463 | | 464 | | 465 | | 466 | | 467 | | 468 | | 469 | | 470 | | 471 | | 472 | | 473 | | 474 | | 475 | | 476 | | 477 | | 478 | | 479 | | 480 | | 481 | | 482 | | 483 | | 484 | | 485 | | 486 | | 487 | | 488 | | 489 | | 490 | | 491 | | 492 | | 493 | | 494 | | 495 | | 496 | | 497 | | 498 | | 499 | | 500 | | 501 | | 502 | | 503 | | 504 | | 505 | | 506 | | 507 | | 508 | | 509 | | 510 | | 511 | | 512 | | 513 | | 514 | | 515 | | 516 | | 517 | | 518 | | 519 | | 520 | | 521 | | 522 | | 523 | | 524 | | 525 | | 526 | | 527 | | 528 | | 529 | | 530 | | 531 | | 532 | | 533 | | 534 | | 535 | | 536 | | 537 | | 538 | | 539 | | 540 | | 541 | | 542 | | 543 | | 544 | | 545 | | 546 | | 547 | | 548 | | 549 | | 550 | | 551 | | 552 | | 553 | | 554 | | 555 | | 556 | | 557 | | 558 | | 559 | | 560 | | 561 | | 562 | | 563 | | 564 | | 565 | | 566 | | 567 | | 568 | | 569 | | 570 | | 571 | | 572 | | 573 | | 574 | | 575 | | 576 | | 577 | | 578 | | 579 | | 580 | | 581 | | 582 | | 583 | | 584 | | 585 | | 586 | | 587 | | 588 | | 589 | | 590 | | 591 | | 592 | | 593 | | 594 | | 595 | | 596 | | 597 | | 598 | | 599 | | 600 | | 601 | | 602 | | 603 | | 604 | | 605 | | 606 | | 607 | | 608 | | 609 | | 610 | | 611 | | 612 | | 613 | | 614 | | 615 | | 616 | | 617 | | 618 | | 619 | | 620 | | 621 | | 622 | | 623 | | 624 | | 625 | | 626 | | 627 | | 628 | | 629 | | 630 | | 631 | | 632 | | 633 | | 634 | | 635 | | 636 | | 637 | | 638 | | 639 | | 640 | | 641 | | 642 | | 643 | | 644 | | 645 | | 646 | | 647 | | 648 | | 649 | | 650 | | 651 | | 652 | | 653 | | 654 | | 655 | | 656 | | 657 | | 658 | | 659 | | 660 | | 661 | | 662 | | 663 | | 664 | | 665 | | 666 | | 667 | | 668 | | 669 | | 670 | | 671 | | 672 | | 673 | | 674 | | 675 | | 676 | | 677 | | 678 | | 679 | | 680 | | 681 | | 682 | | 683 | | 684 | | 685 | | 686 | | 687 | | 688 | | 689 | | 690 | | 691 | | 692 | | 693 | | 694 | | 695 | | 696 | | 697 | | 698 | | 699 | | 700 | | 701 | | 702 | | 703 | | 704 | | 705 | | 706 | | 707 | | 708 | | 709 | | 710 | | 711 | | 712 | | 713 | | 714 | | 715 | | 716 | | 717 | | 718 | | 719 | | 720 | | 721 | | 722 | | 723 | | 724 | | 725 | | 726 | | 727 | | 728 | | 729 | | 730 | | 731 | | 732 | | 733 | | 734 | | 735 | | 736 | | 737 | | 738 | | 739 | | 740 | | 741 | | 742 | | 743 | | 744 | | 745 | | 746 | | 747 | | 748 | | 749 | | 750 | | 751 | | 752 | | 753 | | 754 | | 755 | | 756 | | 757 | | 758 | | 759 | | 760 | | 761 | | 762 | | 763 | | 764 | | 765 | | 766 | | 767 | | 768 | | 769 | | 770 | | 771 | | 772 | | 773 | | 774 | | 775 | | 776 | | 777 | | 778 | | 779 | | 780 | | 781 | | 782 | | 783 | | 784 | | 785 | | 786 | | 787 | | 788 | | 789 | | 790 | | 791 | | 792 | | 793 | | 794 | | 795 | | 796 | | 797 | | 798 | | 799 | | 800 | | 801 | | 802 | | 803 | | 804 | | 805 | | 806 | | 807 | | 808 | | 809 | | 810 | | 811 | | 812 | | 813 | | 814 | | 815 | | 816 | | 817 | | 818 | | 819 | | 820 | | 821 | | 822 | | 823 | | 824 | | 825 | | 826 | | 827 | | 828 | | 829 | | 830 | | 831 | | 832 | | 833 | | 834 | | 835 | | 836 | | 837 | | 838 | | 839 | | 840 | | 841 | | 842 | | 843 | | 844 | | 845 | | 846 | | 847 | | 848 | | 849 | | 850 | | 851 | | 852 | | 853 | | 854 | | 855 | | 856 | | 857 | | 858 | | 859 | | 860 | | 861 | | 862 | | 863 | | 864 | | 865 | | 866 | | 867 | | 868 | | 869 | | 870 | | 871 | | 872 | | 873 | | 874 | | 875 | | 876 | | 877 | | 878 | | 879 | | 880 | | 881 | | 882 | | 883 | | 884 | | 885 | | 886 | | 887 | | 888 | | 889 | | 890 | | 891 | | 892 | | 893 | | 894 | | 895 | | 896 | | 897 | | 898 | | 899 | | 900 | | 901 | | 902 | | 903 | | 904 | | 905 | | 906 | | 907 | | 908 | | 909 | | 910 | | 911 | | 912 | | 913 | | 914 | | 915 | | 916 | | 917 | | 918 | | 919 | | 920 | | 921 | | 922 | | 923 | | 924 | | 925 | | 926 | | 927 | | 928 | | 929 | | 930 | | 931 | | 932 | | 933 | | 934 | | 935 | | 936 | | 937 | | 938 | | 939 | | 940 | | 941 | | 942 | | 943 | | 944 | | 945 | | 946 | | 947 | | 948 | | 949 | | 950 | | 951 | | 952 | | 953 | | 954 | | 955 | | 956 | | 957 | | 958 | | 959 | | 960 | | 961 | | 962 | | 963 | | 964 | | 965 | | 966 | | 967 | | 968 | | 969 | | 970 | | 971 | | 972 | | 973 | | 974 | | 975 | | 976 | | 977 | | 978 | | 979 | | 980 | | 981 | | 982 | | 983 | | 984 | | 985 | | 986 | | 987 | | 988 | | 989 | | 990 | | 991 | | 992 | | 993 | | 994 | | 995 | | 996 | | 997 | | 998 | | 999 | | 1000 | | 1001 | | 1002 | | 1003 | | 1004 | | 1005 | | 1006 | | 1007 | | 1008 | | 1009 | | 1010 | | 1011 | | 1012 | | 1013 | | 1014 | | 1015 | | 1016 | | 1017 | | 1018 | | 1019 | | 1020 | | 1021 | | 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FAMILY MONEY/2

City cool on bear market

INVESTMENT

What has happened to British equities? After one of the most sustained bull markets on the stock which, despite a number of setbacks took share indices to all-time highs, share prices have taken a severe tumble.

But while the Cassandras who have been predicting a new bear phase of falling prices have been mulling, "I told you so," most City experts are taking a reasonably sanguine, not to say optimistic, view. Their message to bewildered investors is: "Don't panic."

No one can deny the damage done during the past few weeks, of course. Led by the electricals sector the market has dropped by nearly 10 per cent. The FT Share Index, for example, reached a peak of 644.2 on June 4 but has now fallen to below 600. The FT 30 Share Index peaked a day earlier at 1020 but has now dipped to about 940.

Electricals stocks have done even worse. STC, which bought the computer company ICL recently, has seen its share price plunge by more than 36 per cent in the past month. Rascal has experienced an almost identical fall and little respite seemed likely when GEC turned in disappointing profit figures last week.

The shake-out in electricals, however, is seen by most City fund managers as a special case. They are subject to enormous competition from abroad and they have to invest a huge amount of capital developing new products which are out-dated rapidly.

Roger Yates, of GT Unit Managers, said: "The leading companies were always vulnerable. In any case, they are only following a worldwide phenomenon which has hit similar companies in the United States and Japan before now."

The general stock market fall has not been so catastrophic.

The pound staged an impressive recovery

"We do not feel a turning point into a bear market has been reached," said Ian Payne, the director of Save & Prosper's UK funds. "The current setback is a long overdue correction to the market which had run ahead of itself."

"It should have happened months ago, such as when interest rates suddenly rose at the beginning of this year. Stocks were becoming overvalued and we feel more relaxed about the levels we now have than we did before."

Mr Payne believes it is a reaction to a temporary situation. That situation is the sort of complex conjunction of political, economic and market conditions which often causes big stock market moves.

IT'S A COMPUTERISED FORECAST OF THE DIRECTION THE STOCK MARKET IS TAKING...



Smith

The apparently growing unpopularity of the Government revealed in recent opinion polls did help the attitude in the City which tends to feel that a Labour government would be a disaster for the British economy.

At the same time the Government's own economic policy appeared to be in trouble, or at least in doubt. Inflation and the money supply were creeping up again as oil prices continued to weaken.

The trouble with low oil prices is that it reduces the Government's revenue and since the Budget falling prices have chopped about £2.5 billion from what the Chancellor had said he expected.

The pound also staged an impressive recovery under the influence of high interest rates, climbing back over US\$1.30. A high exchange rate hits Britain's company exports. For every 10 pence rise in the pound against the Deutschmark, for example, ICI's profits fall by 2.5 per cent.

Added to that was an imbalance in the stock market itself. Suddenly companies started issuing new shares to the extent that £3 billion of new shares were launched in the first five months this year — twice the amount launched in the same period last year. That took

investment away from existing stock and weakened the market. The result was that the corporate manufacturing sector suffered in the shake-out since it tends to be most vulnerable to exchange rates and government policy. As so often in falling markets, though, financial stocks came out better, with banks and merchant banks coming top of the sector performance league during the last month.

Some feel the bull phase has ended

But the brighter side is that British companies are doing well generally. Dividends should continue to grow at a healthy pace. And with prices now lower some City experts believe this is a good time to buy — as long as you go for the right stocks. There's the rub.

They agree that the market is becoming increasingly selective but everyone has a different opinion of which stocks it is right to select.

Out of the recent confusion and uncertainty a consensus is emerging finally. While there is little fear that a genuine bear market has arrived, there is a feeling that the strong bull phase has come to an end. "The market will recover but it won't

bounce back aggressively as it has done in the past," said Mr Payne.

Mr Yates agrees: "Previously the market bounced back from price falls because the outlook for the corporate sector was extremely favourable. That is not quite the case this time."

Though company performance will continue to improve it will do so at a much slower rate. The phase of rapid recovery after the recession has now come to an end and the great benefits enjoyed from rationalization and increased efficiency during the past two years have been absorbed.

Profit expectations for the corporate sector are being downgraded from about 15 per cent to nearer 10 per cent. The excitement and high growth generated by recovery has petered out. According to Mr Yates, even if they do not actually fall in value "equities will go nowhere".

The inevitable growth in political uncertainty as the next general election approaches will also not help the prospect for equities. "The market over the next nine months is going to be tough," said one expert. "If you get the stocks wrong these days the market is unforgiving."

Richard Thomson

Co-op at the top of the league

The high interest accounts offered by Co-op Bank and Save & Prosper/Robert Fleming are listed as "best buys" for corporate investors, in a review of high interest bank accounts carried out by the financial advisers, Chase de Vere.

The report says: "Of the 13 institutions surveyed, two are selected as offering particularly attractive accounts. The Co-operative Bank is top in the daily interest league with 13 per cent (as at June 26) and also accepts a very low minimum deposit of £500. It also has the important advantage of being able to offer all the normal clearing bank facilities."

The report does not, however, include the very attractive Citibank Savings account — Cheque Plus — which offers a high interest rate, no minimum investment and full cheque book facilities with no bank charges.

Co-op Bank, singled out by Chase de Vere as a best buy, has high charges by comparison. There is a set fee of £9 a quarter covering 18 cheques, but if more than 18 cheques are written, there is a 50p fee per £100 debit turnover. Chase de Vere's report admits that this could prove to be quite substantial depending on how customers use the Co-op Bank account.

The survey concludes that many companies could make much more effective use of their current account balance by using the facilities of a high interest bank account, although in most cases it would still be necessary to run a traditional current account in tandem, for maximum efficiency.

Graham Dawson, of Chase de Vere, said: "These days a lot of attention is devoted to the needs of the private investor, but in fact the largest deposit holders are corporations and smaller businesses. It is now possible for interest to be earned on these vast sums that have previously been lying dormant in non-interest paying current accounts."

Platinum — a unique investment

Platinum is one of the rarest metals on earth and one of the most valuable. It is produced in exceptionally small quantities and the total world output is only around 80 tonnes annually, compared with about 1,200 tonnes of gold.

Much of the platinum produced is used in a rapidly growing range of high technology applications and a significant proportion is made into jewellery. Consequently the metal is always in demand. It is also a readily tradable commodity.

Now Johnson Matthey platinum bars are available to the private investor.

Of course, like any other investment, the value of platinum can fall as well as rise, particularly in the short term. But the price in sterling has nearly quadrupled during the past decade and over a similar period it has easily outperformed inflation, too.

Johnson Matthey platinum bars are produced in eight sizes up to 10oz troy, each one being individually numbered.

You can take possession of the bars in the UK, in which case VAT must be charged. Alternatively, they can be held in safe keeping at our vaults in Jersey or Zurich, in which case no VAT is payable on the value of the bars.

Should you wish to sell your bars we guarantee to repurchase them at any time. For full information on Johnson Matthey platinum bars, and an application form, simply complete and send the coupon by Freepost.

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Great as a top-up policy

If you already have ordinary life insurance, the rising cost of living can soon leave you under-insured. Dynamic Cover Plan will KEEP your family protected, because it keeps on growing.

Great for women
Women can get even higher benefits than men of the same age — see the table.

Great for your pocket
As little as 17p a day can give you all this peace of mind. Check the questions opposite to see if you qualify — and APPLY NOW!

It's easy to apply

Just choose the annual amount you wish to pay each month, then complete the simple application form. Please answer all the

questions and sign the declaration. Then post your application and cheque to GRE (LTD) (DOP), FREEMONT, Broom Road, Lytham St. Anne's, Lancashire FY8 4BR. No stamp is needed.

On acceptance, your policy will be posted to you along with a bank Direct Debit form, which is needed for your future monthly payments. You then have 15 days to examine your policy. If you are in any way dissatisfied, simply return your policy to GRE. It will be cancelled without question and any payment will be refunded immediately. That's the Guarantee money-back guarantee.

Apply today! The sooner you start — the sooner your family is protected.

GRE is one of the largest underwriters in the UK with worldwide assets exceeding £3,000,000,000. Our average will be over £1,000,000 every working day in settlement of claims. We are a friendly, professional and helpful staff who are always ready to welcome you as a policyholder.

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Answer these six questions to see if you qualify

The questions must be answered fully and to the best of your knowledge and belief. If you need to give further details please use a separate sheet of paper which you should also sign and date. Please be as specific as possible to save us having to refer back to you.

Answering questions (a) and (b) you can ignore common colds, influenza, minor injuries, negative mass X-ray, uncomplicated pregnancy and childhood ailments (except Rheumatism, Psoriasis).

Please answer these questions truthfully:

(a) Have you within the last five years had or awaiting any medical or surgical investigation or treatment for any disease or serious injury? YES NO
(b) Are you taking any medicine or drug or are you under any form of medical supervision, care, treatment or special diet? YES NO
(c) Do you participate in any sport or pastime generally considered to be dangerous, such as competitive motor sports, mountaineering, aviation (other than as a fare-paying passenger) or underwater activities? YES NO
(d) Have you smoked any cigarettes within the last 12 months? YES NO
(e) Have you any intention of smoking cigarettes in the future? YES NO
(f) What are your height and weight? _____

Guardian reserves the right to call for a medical examination at its expense.

Your Doctor's Name _____

Address _____

How long has this Doctor known you? _____ years? If less than six months, please provide the name and address of your previous Doctor.

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To GRE (LTD) (DOP), FREEMONT, Broom Road, Lytham St. Anne's, Lancashire FY8 4BR. No stamp needed. Please tick your choice of initial monthly payment.

I enclose my cheque for: £6.00 £9.00 £12.00 £15.00

This is the best Premium which increases each year by 10p in the pound of the initial amount.

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I enclose a cheque made payable to Guardian Assurance plc for my first month's payment, as indicated above.

Signature (Mr/Mrs/Miss) _____

Full name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Date of birth _____

Declaration: I declare that the information given above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I agree to be bound by the terms of the contract between me and Guardian Assurance plc. I consent to Guardian seeking medical advice from any doctor or other health professional in connection with anything which affects my physical or mental health or seeking information from any insurance office to which a proposal has been made for my insurance and I authorize the giving of such information.

Signature _____ Date _____

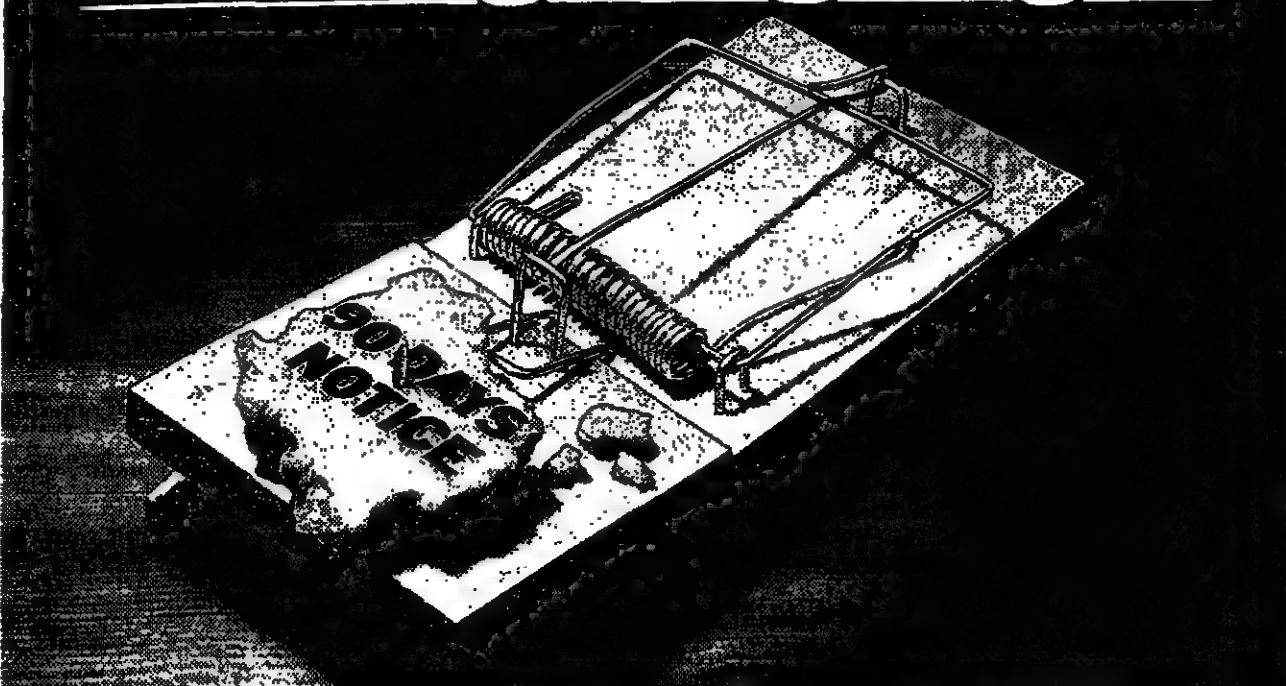
Please send a second application form for my spouse

My Brother's / Sister's name is: _____

Guardian Assurance plc, Registered Office: Royal Exchange, London EC3N 3LS. Registered in England No. 28021. Please tick your choice of initial monthly payment.

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| 35 | 39 | £32,773 | £51,680 | £70,588 | £88,495 |
| 36 | 40 | £29,432 | £46,415 | £63,386 | £80,377 |
| 37 | 41 | £26,351 | £41,554 | £56,756 | £71,559 |
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| 48 | 52 | £7,631 | £12,349 | £16,967 | £21,385 |
| 49 | 53 | £6,788 | £11,131 | £15,203 | £19,276 |
| 50 | 54 | £6,040 | £10,000 | £13,658 | £17,317 |
| 51 | 55 | £5,389 | £8,971 | £12,253 | £15,536 |
| 52 | | £4,804 | £8,044 | £11,094 | £13,938 |
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Decision day for creche mothers

The ever unpopular taxman has made life difficult for working mothers and is becoming a threat to small business - at the same time the Inland Revenue has issued four leaflets to explain its regulations

TAXATION

The 1985 Finance Bill reaches the report stage in Parliament next week - and at least three amendments on taxing workplace nurseries are expected to be proposed from the floor of the House of Commons.

It is now nearly 18 months since the Inland Revenue, suddenly decided that subsidized places in nurseries for employees' under-fives were to be taxed as perks.

Until then everyone had assumed - and previously the Inland Revenue had confirmed that assumption to the Equal Opportunities Commission - that these places came under the heading of employees' welfare, tax-free like subsidized canteens rather than taxable as perks.

Recently the Inland Revenue has relied on the issue of back tax, because parents who use these places for some years, thinking there was no tax liability faced crippling bills, up to £1,000 or more in some cases.

Taxation of subsidized creches starts in this financial year. That is why it is very important that an amendment is successful next week.

The Government seems opposed to the idea of workplace nurseries, leaving it wide open to the suggestion that it wishes to reduce the unemployment figures by keeping mothers who want to work at home.

Perhaps this explains why John Moore, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, has been busy in his opposition to the amendments - sending briefings to Members on the government benches suggesting that they



Mothers and children at London's Kingsway Nursery, first victim of the taxman's attack

should not vote in favour of the proposals being put forward by Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith, Conservative MP for Wealden.

Mr Moore seems to be saying that the tax loss will be astronomical. A figure of £2.5 billion has been suggested. "All

The institute favours a broader amendment

rubbish", says Kate Francis, of the Workplace Nurseries Campaign. "What we are asking is that the supposed perk of a subsidized nursery place be taxed in the same way as a company car."

"That would not be such a burden for the parents, and

there is a tax precedent for the approach which might soothe the Inland Revenue."

It would mean that nurseries now threatened with closure could remain open. It would also mean that the Government actually gets some tax in the end. For if the nurseries close or are forced underground, the Government won't see a penny.

This then is the amendment which of the three seems most likely to succeed. Support comes too from outside bodies such as the Industrial Society and the Institute of Personnel Management, which regards the government's attitude as extraordinary.

"We have been so convinced

of the justice of the workplace nursery campaign case", says Steve Palmer, of the institute.

"That we find it absolutely amazing that the Government is behaving like this. And those employers we know of who have gone out of their way to

Company cars are a popular perk

provide company creches to help women get back to work are obviously not at all happy.

Effectively, this tax will close these nurseries down."

The institute favours a much broader amendment, the one that completely exempts employers' nurseries from tax. "It's

the principle we believe in", says Mr Palmer.

He concedes, however, that the company car type amendment may have more chance of success even though it comprises what many people feel is the right of any mother to have her child care treated as a legitimate business expense.

The Labour Party's amendment also wants complete exemption, but it is not expected to cut much ice, either. So basically, it comes down to convincing the Commons that taxing a creche like a car is a just and reasonable solution. Principles apart, even this would make the tax much less burdensome for mothers.

At the moment, the expense of paying child care out of taxed income is simply astronomical. Typically, the cost of a nursery place for an under-five could be as high as £80 a week in London. This rules it out for all but the very highly paid unless there is some form of subsidy.

Of the total, you might find the employer paying £50 a week, and the employee paying £30. Now in addition to finding that £30, there will be the tax to pay on the £50 - another £15 a week for a basic rate taxpayer.

Company cars, on the other hand, are taxed at much less than their full value. They are an immensely useful and popular perk. Even though successive governments have always declared their intention to try to stamp it out.

While the true benefit of a 1300cc company car might be £3,000 a year, the user is not taxed on that amount. The Inland Revenue deems it to be worth only £410 a year. This is known as the assessable benefit and tax payable at 30 per cent works out at £123 a year.

The Workplace Nurseries Campaign is trying to establish the cash value of an employer's subsidy at no more than £1,300 a year for tax purposes. But, of course, that still leaves the company car user paying peanuts on his or her perk.

Maggie Drummond

Now help is at hand, four times

A leaflet issued by the Inland Revenue last week would have interested Geoffrey Jace, who had to pay several years' back tax for part-time workers whom he had regarded as self-employed but the taxman eventually classified as his employees (Family Money, June 15).

Entitled Tax - employed or self-employed, IR 56 aims to clarify the areas where confusion may arise. It is clearly written and certainly lacks the patronizing tone taken in many official publications. It gives a list of questions whose answers would indicate whether you are employed or self-employed.

But there are still areas where confusion could arise. A "self-employed" freelance gardener, say, could probably answer yes to five or six of the seven questions which would indicate that he was employed. The best advice is probably still to check with the Inland Revenue.

Appropriately, the Inland Revenue also issued booklet IR37 last week, dealing with income tax and capital gains tax appeals, explaining the mechanism and timetable for appealing against a tax assessment.

Income Tax and One Parent Families, IR29, is intended to give all the information needed by a one-parent family about what items of income are non-taxable and what allowances are applicable. It explains the tax position of a taxpayer who remarries, or is reconciled.

To complete the quartet IR45, Income Tax, Capital Gains Tax, Capital Transfer Tax - What Happens when Someone Dies, explains all the actions of the personal representatives, from establishing probate, through all encounters with the Inland Revenue, indicating where dispensations would or would not be liable to the various forms of tax.

The leaflets are all available free from tax offices.

Revenue inspectors 'like KGB'

Our recent articles on the Inland Revenue have struck a few chords with readers. We have received dozens of letters many likening Her Majesty's tax inspectors to the KGB. Your comments bring sharply into focus the disheartening Catch 22 aspects of the Revenue's approach.

One reader who formerly worked for a number of companies on a self-employed basis suddenly found basic rate tax being deducted at source. When asked, the Revenue refused to tell the organizations concerned whether he was to be

regarded as self-employed or not. "They decided to play safe and take the tax," he says. "So I will not get the benefit of my personal allowance until a long time later and I cannot claim schedule D expenses on pre-tax even though I still have the same expenses."

It seemed incredible - and unfair - that the Revenue won't give an individual ruling on whether people are self-employed or not.

Another reader complains about the way anyone who is self-employed and on a low income is an immediate target for suspicion. "I have a mildly creative occupation having been more interested in developing my own skills rather than maximizing my income ... each year I am forced to account for my limited lifestyle almost down to calculating the cost of every meal I eat."

One writer says the Revenue claim that 80 per cent of investigations yielded discrepancies is biased. "Small businessmen faced with an in-depth investigation of their accounts can take one of three options.

Resist by taking time and trouble to fight, entail a professional adviser which costs them money in the long run anyway and so they merely pay up."

It is a fair bet that this reader thinks many of these latter cases make up the Revenue's figure of 80 per cent.

Even accountants have been amazed at the bizarre nature of some Revenue inquiries. One wrote that his client was asked "whatver she supplies drink at an exhibition she mans and whether she had a swig at the bottle which would involve a personal taxable benefit."

A couple of freelance artists who had their expenses investigated found themselves on the receiving end of comments such as "What are you doing buying things from Jager?" and "You say you use the car to take urgent work to the station. I am not allowing the full amount of petrol for these journeys. It's a very pleasant drive and you obviously get a measure of enjoyment driving to the station."

This couple claim that

victimization of the self-employed was so rife in their area that people moved house just to get out of that particular tax office's clutches.

Readers were critical of Inland Revenue policy not to disclose the reasons for investigations. One reader claimed he received only "unsubstantiated allegations regarding my tax affairs". Eventually it turned out that the question mark concerned a parcel of shares which he did not own. The Revenue had received the wrong information because of an auditor's error.

The final words perhaps come from a former Revenue employee: "My own belief was that the system operated specifically to keep those who had only personal or small business skills in their place. That in a time of considerable numbers of business failures and the consequent increase in unemployment, the prime mover in making most businesses bankrupt should be the Inland Revenue, says a great deal about the system."



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The major losers from the abolition of CGT on gilts will be the insurance companies. They would have been able to create notional losses on gilts in life and pension portfolios, at no risk, by swapping gilt holdings between their different portfolios, using the indexation provisions to create notional losses. These losses could then have been used to mitigate capital gains on equities and property.

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Law Report July 6 1985

No tax on interest not received

Macpherson v Bond (Inspector of Taxes)
Before Mr Justice Vinelott
Judgment delivered July 11

Income tax was not chargeable on interest credited to a deposit account opened by the taxpayer and charged by him to secure, and subsequently to pay in part, a debt to the bank of a third party.

Mr Justice Vinelott, allowing an appeal by the taxpayer, Mr Alexander Macpherson, from a determination of the City of London General Commissioners, upheld his claim that tax under Case III of Schedule D was not chargeable for the years from 1972 to 1978 on amounts of interest varying from £250 to £2,000.

In 1972 the taxpayer deposited £10,000 with Barclays Bank, Southampton. The account was charged under an agreement to secure sums owed to the bank by R. H. McDonald Ltd. Thereunder the bank could transfer money from the account without notice to satisfy the indebtedness and could refuse payment of any cheque drawn on the account to the extent that it reduced the balance below the amount of the company's debt.

In 1979 the company was wound up and the balance on the taxpayer's account, then amounting to £16,763 (interest having been credited on a half-yearly basis) was taken in part satisfaction of the company's debt to the bank. The taxpayer's appeal was against assessments to tax in respect of those amounts of interest.

Mr Robert Walker, QC for the taxpayer; Mr Alan Moses for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE VINELOTT said that the issue was whether the taxpayer was liable for the tax under Case III of Schedule D as applied by section 11(1) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970. That

provided that the tax "shall be charged on and paid by the persons receiving or entitled to the income in respect of which tax under that Schedule is in this Act directed to be charged".

The question was whether the taxpayer received or was entitled to the interest credited on the deposit account in the year in which the income was so credited.

The Crown, relying on *Perkins v Inland Revenue Commissioners* (1928) 13 TC 851 submitted that the taxpayer received or became entitled to interest which under the prior arrangement with the bank he had agreed would be used to swell a deposit account over which he had given a charge.

That arrangement, it was said, did not deprive the taxpayer's right to receive the income by having it credited to the account but only the freedom to dispose of it.

Neither the *Perkins* case nor *Dunne v McGowan* ([1978] 1 WLR 617) supported the Crown's case - the questions there had been whether there had been a disposition or become entitled to interest when received it was no longer part of the taxpayer's total income.

Here the question was whether at the material times the taxpayer had received or become entitled to interest credited in the books of the bank and which in the event the bank was never under any liability to pay to anybody.

The effect of crediting and capitalizing the interest was that the bank became liable to pay so much of the interest as might in the event transpire to be over as money which after the company's liability had been discharged belonged to the taxpayer. It followed that the taxpayer's appeal succeeded.

Solicitors: Curry & Co. Solicitor of Inland Revenue.

Judge's use of admissions at pre-trial preview

Regina v Hutchinson

Admissions made at a pre-trial review by either prosecution or defence might not be used evidentially at trial without the consent of the party on whose behalf they were made.

The Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) (Lord Justice Watkins, Mr Justice Ewbank and Sir Ralph Kimer Brown) so held on July 11 when dismissing an appeal by Arthur Hutchinson against his convictions of aggravated burglary, murder and rape at Sheffield Crown Court (Mr Justice McNeill and a jury) on September 14, 1984.

LORD JUSTICE WATKINS said that while the pre-trial review was in its present footloose state it was undesirable and wrong that anything said or done in the course of it should be used for evidential purposes at the trial without consent.

The trial judge was wrong in allowing what was said at the pre-trial review to be made known to the jury, and that decision amounted to an irregularity. However, in the present case that

irregularity was not material.

It was also said that the judge had been wrong to allow the Crown to call a witness to rebut an allegation made by the appellant in his evidence, that that witness had committed the murders.

The appellant contended that the matter did not arise *ex improviso*, since the prosecution should have been alerted to the allegation by a letter from the appellant to the DPP before the trial. The tone of that letter, however, was such that it was unreasonable to say that the prosecution should have anticipated that anything said in it would be repeated, and therefore call for an answer in anticipation during the prosecution case.

The *ex improviso* principle had to be applied with a recognition that the prosecution were expected to react reasonably to pre-trial warnings of matters likely to be raised, and that they were not expected to take notice of fanciful and unreal statements emanating from no matter what source.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS

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PERSONAL COLUMNS

Trade 01-837 2104 and 01-278 9232 Private 01-837 3333 or 3311

DEATHS

UTON - On May 17th at St. Mary's Hospital, Upton, died at the age of 82, Mr. John Uton, a retired teacher and a member of the Upton Parish Council.

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Saturday

Television and radio programmes
Summaries: Peter Dear, Peter Davalle

Sunday

- BBC 1**
- 6.45 *Open University: Modern Art*. Beckmann: 7.10 *Which Test to Use?* 7.35 *A Matter of Geometry*. 8.00 *Handicapped in the Community*. Ends at 8.25.
- 8.30 *The Saturday Picture Show* presented by Mark Curry and Maggie Philbin. The guests include Les Dennis and Radio One DJ, Paul Jordan. Gary Davies introduces *The Adventures* and there is a report on the Royal Mail, this year celebrating its 350th birthday. Plus the usual cartoons.
- 10.40 *Film: Hansel and Gretel* (1954). Puppet version of Humperdink's opera. *Film: Abbott and Costello Meet Captain Kidd* (1952). The two comedians are joined by Charles Laughton for this prize romp about buried treasure on Skull Island. Directed by Charles Lamont.
- 12.00 *Grandstand*, introduced by Desmond Lynam from Wimbledon. News headlines at 1.05 are followed by three finals - the Ladies' Singles, the Men's Doubles and the Ladies' Doubles. The commentators are Ian MacKinnon, John Barrett, Gerald Williams, Barry Davies, Mark Cox, Bill Threlkell, Ann Jones and Virginia Wade (Coast).
- 5.05 *News with Jan Leeming*. Weather. 6.05 *Sport/Regional news*.
- 6.10 *The New Adventures of Wonder Woman* starring Lynda Carter, this week saving our skins when a magician's latest trick threatens the world's oil markets (r). (Coast)
- 6.55 *Film: No Man's Land* (1984) starring Stella Stevens as a sheltered widow with three children who takes over her late husband's star. When a group of desperadoes arrive on the scene, guns blazing, and loot the general store, the townfolk become restless. When a stage-coach arrives with its passengers robbed, it is decided that a man should be the sheriff. But the widow woman and her daughters refuse to budge and try to solve the mystery of the robberies. Directed by Rod Holcomb (Coast).
- 8.30 *The Val Doonican Music Show*. The guests are Max Bygraves, Marti Caine and The Nolans.
- 9.15 *News and Sport*. With Jan Leeming. Weather.
- 9.30 *Wimbledon 85*. Desmond Lynam introduces highlights from this afternoon's Ladies' Singles final and the Men's and Women's Doubles finals. Gerald Williams previews tomorrow's Men's Singles final.
- 10.30 *Film: The Heat* (1971) starring Warren Beatty and Goldie Hawn. Comedy thriller about a security expert's plan to rob a bank. While the expert is supervising the installation of a foolproof protection system in a Hamburg bank, he dreams up a plan to rob the safe deposit boxes, believing, wrongly, that the criminals who own the boxes will be unable to report their loss. Directed by Richard Brooks.
- 12.30 *Weather*.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 105.3kHz/258m; 108.9kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m; VHF 90-92.5: Radio 4: 200kHz/1500m; VHF 82-95: LBC 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3: Capital: 1548kHz/194m; VHF 95.8: BBC Radio London 1558kHz/206m; VHF 94.9: World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

- Radio 4**
- On long wave, 1 also VHF stereo.
- 5.55 *Shipping*. 6.00 *News Briefing*. 6.10 *Prelude*. 6.30 *News*. 6.45 *Today's Papers*. 6.50 *Prayer*. 6.55 *Weather*. 7.00 *News*. 7.10 *Today's Papers*. 7.15 *On Your Farm*. 7.45 *In Perspective*. 7.50 *Down to Earth*. 7.55 *Weather*. 8.00 *News*. 8.10 *Today's Papers*. 8.15 *Sport*. 8.45 *Today's Papers*. 8.50 *Parliament*. 8.55 *Weather*. 9.00 *News*. 9.05 *After Henry*. Repeat of the comedy series starring Prunella Scales (5). 9.10 *Gossip*. 9.35 *Great Livers*. Robin Worman with memories of the big ships using the port of Southampton (r). 9.50 *News Stand*. Frances Whelan reviews the weekly magazine. The Week in Westminster with Robert Cecil of the London Standard.
- 10.30 *Pick of the Week*. TV and radio extracts presented by Margaret Howard.
- 11.30 *From Our Own Correspondent*. BBC correspondents talk about the countries they work in.
- 12.00 *News*. A small country living. Jeanne McCullen explores rural Britain.
- 12.27 *I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue*. Humphrey Lytton chairs the panel game played for laughs. 12.35 *Weather*.
- 1.00 *News*. 1.10 *Any Questions?* MPs Norman Lamont and Enoch Powell. Rev Donald Reeves and Alan Maitland join John Timpon in London (r). 1.15 *Shipping*. 2.00 *News*. The *Attenborough* series. *Swimmer* by Christopher Russell - winner of the 1984 Cleeve Copley Award. With Julian Firth as the crippled boy. Also starring Tony Van der Grinten and John Rowe (r).
- 3.00 *News*. Radio Active (new series). 3.30 *News*. Extraordinary: the story of Ludwig Leichardt's explorations in Australia in the 1840s, with Carl Duering as the explorer.
- 4.15 *Explorer*. Marjorie Louthouse with the results of Radio 4's competition for small businesses. 4.45 *Work and Life*. Reflections by the veteran broadcaster Harry South.
- 5.00 *World*. Derek Jones with listeners' questions. 5.25 *Week Ending*. Satirical review of the week's news. 5.30 *Shipping*. 5.45 *Weather*. 5.55 *News*. 6.00 *Sport Round-Up*. BBC 50 in France with BBC 50 in France with David Owen. M. J. Davies is the personal choice of a poetry and prose. The readings are by Jane Asher and Peter Sarstedt.
- 7.05 *Stop The Week* with Robert Robinson. Includes a song from Instant Sunshine.

- Radio 3**
- 6.55 *Weather*. 7.00 *News*. 7.05 *Aubade*. Wren's Serenade for Strings (Stockholm). Rognoni's *Verlaine* (Christensen). guitar. Colledge-Taylor's *musique d'ensemble*. The *Bamboula* (Bourmouthe). (Lynch). Lohar's *On my lips every kiss is the same* (Markin Hill Smith). soprano. Weber's *Grand Potpourri* (Blyss). cello with North German Radio Orchestra (Andreas). Schmidt's *Symphony No 3* (Slovak Philharmonic/Pesak). 1.00 *News*.
- 1.05 *Stereo Release*. Bach's *French Suite No 2*. BWV 813 (Gavrilov). Handel's *cantata* *Clori, m'ha benedetto* (Dorelli). Stravinsky's *suite Pulcinella* (Israel Philharmonic/Bernstein). Strauss's *Eight Songs for a Harp* (Popp, soprano, and Sawallisch (piano). Beethoven's *Variations and Fugue in E-flat on Theme from Prometheus* (Grandel). piano).
- 10.50 *W. G. Sebald*. (Kovachy, violin). Part one. Chabrier's *Fête polonoise* (conductor Chabichov). Part two. Chabrier's *Fête polonoise* (conductor Chabichov). Part three. Chabrier's *Fête polonoise* (conductor Chabichov). Part four. Chabrier's *Fête polonoise* (conductor Chabichov). Part five. Chabrier's *Fête polonoise* (conductor Chabichov). Part six. Chabrier's *Fête polonoise* (conductor Chabichov). Part seven. Chabrier's *Fête polonoise* (conductor Chabichov). Part eight. Chabrier's *Fête polonoise* (conductor Chabichov). Part nine. Chabrier's *Fête polonoise* (conductor Chabichov). Part ten. Chabrier's *Fête polonoise* (conductor Chabichov). Part eleven. Chabrier's *Fête polonoise* (conductor Chabichov). Part twelve. Chabrier's *Fête polonoise* (conductor Chabichov). Part thirteen. Chabrier's *Fête polonoise* (conductor Chabichov). Part fourteen. Chabrier's *Fête polonoise* (conductor Chabichov). Part fifteen. Chabrier's *Fête polonoise* (conductor Chabichov). 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